



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

November 24, 2021

Issue 8 Vol 46

## IUC honours two outstanding lay-leaders of the United Church



The International University of the Caribbean (IUC), will be presenting its first honorary degrees to two outstanding Jamaicans and Lay leaders of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, who have served the church country well, making significant contributions in education and accounting. The presentations will be made at the university's annual graduation ceremony that will be held at 1 p.m. on November 25, 2021 at the Hope United Church, 221 Old Hope Road. The nominees are, Mrs. Irene L. Walter CD, and Mr. Donald Reynolds CD.

Mrs. Walter, a former Elder of the Hope United Church, was named the first female Registrar of the

Caribbean Examinations Council and is the outgoing Chancellor of IUC. Her contribution to education in the Caribbean, culminated with her most notable accomplishments, the launch of the Caribbean Secondary School Examinations Certificate, (CSEC) in 1979. Later in 1998, she presided over the launch of the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE), as the replacement of the overseas-based Cambridge A-level Examinations. Many are the awards that Mrs. Walter received during her 40-year service to humanity and her former institutions. She was named to the Hall of Fame of her alma mater, Camperdown High School, to the "Corridor of Excellence" of Shortwood Teachers' College, recognised as a Distinguished Graduate by the University of the West Indies on its 50th anniversary, and honoured by the Government of Jamaica with the award of the Order of Distinction, Commander Class. She was duly recognised as a LIVING LEGEND by the Caribbean Community of Retired Persons.

### IN THIS ISSUE

**IUC honours two outstanding lay-leaders of the United Church**

Pg 1-2

**Constitution Corner**

Pg 3

**UCMF Walk-a-thon**

Pg 4

**Prayer Corner**

Pg 5

**Cayman Island Regional Mission Council**

Pg 6

**COVID-19 Protocols**

Pg 7

**Liturgy for worship at home**

Pg 8



Mr. Donald Reynolds, an elder at the North Street United Church, is a distinguished Chartered Accountant, and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in English and Wales. His passion is service to humankind, especially children. He serves on the General Council of the International University of the Caribbean as Chair of the Finance Committee.

He is credited with his spirit of giving back and in his own words once said, "I didn't work for an award; I work because I want to give back." He found time to give back to society by serving the youths of Jamaica, including many years of service to the Scouts Association of Jamaica and the Rotary Club of Kingston, which he served as President, also as a former leader of the young people's group of the North Street United Church.

## UCJCI FACTS

UCJCI Documents edition

SBWLAY

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

4

TEICONS

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

7      2      11

ORHURHCUC

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

8

PCIOALIYHCECDR

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

6      1      10

INEASALUMSMINTR

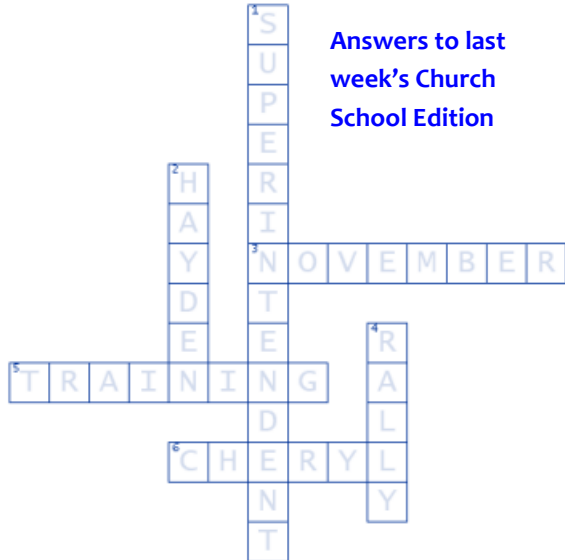
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

9      5      3

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    7    9    10    11

Answers to last week's Church School Edition



## CONSTITUTION CORNER

This month's edition of Constitution Corner continues to look at Elders. In last month's edition we looked at who Elders are, how they are elected and their term of office. This month, we look at the duties of an Elder, as outlined in Paragraph 3 of the By-Laws.

### **The Congregational Board as the Executive Body**

The Congregational Board is an important part of the governance structure of the Church. The Constitution (Chapter 2, Section 2b) states that "the Congregational Board shall be responsible for the discipline and care of the Congregation" ...and "shall be the local executive body". The Congregational Board is constituted by the Elders along with the Minister. The duties of Elders in this capacity are set out more fully in section 3 of the By-Laws. These may be conveniently grouped under the following headings.

### **Spiritual and Pastoral**

1. Support the Minister in the spiritual oversight of the church, providing pastoral care and support and ensuring the orderly administration of the worship life of the congregation;
2. Assist the presiding pastor by preparing and serving

elements in the Communion Service;

3. Watch carefully over the life and conduct of members, in conjunction with the Minister;
4. Seek after persons for commitment to Christ and lead them to candidacy for church membership;
5. Enquire after candidates and set a good example of Christian conduct and service to the church;
6. Assist members to live peaceably with one another;
7. Helping members discover their gifts and skills for ministry within and outside the congregation.

### **Administrative**

1. See that Church buildings and other property are kept in good order;
2. Assist with the financial management of the church
3. Exercise the disciplinary functions of the Congregation in accordance with the Constitution.

### **Something to Note**

The Board shall be guided in carrying out its duties by *The Manual for Elders*, which is a publication of the United Church. It gives more details about how Elders should carry out their duties and best practices for Elders to follow.

## NOVEMBER

⇒ **November 25, International day for the Elimination of Violence Against Woman**

⇒ Church School Month

⇒ Men's Health Month

⇒ National Parent Month in Jamaica:

**2021 Theme-** 'Positive Parenting, impacting Generations'



## United Church Men's Fellowship

# Walk-a-thon

Deadline for contribution:

Friday, Nov 26, 2021

Total no of participants in walk-a-thon:

Approximately 26

*Proceeds in aid of boys and men in need.*



On Saturday, November 20, 2021, the United Church Men's Fellowship came together in two places to stage its Walk-a-thon. The Walk-a-thon was the first major fundraising event for the UCMF since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Members and friends of the UCMF, led by President-General Carlton Rodney, assembled at Emancipation Park in Kingston at the crack of dawn. Simultaneously, a faithful

band of brothers and friends from the Western Region, led by Vice President-General Charles Stewart, assembled at the Elleston Wakeland Centre in Falmouth. At these two locations, we walked together, fellowshiped together, and most importantly, raised well-needed funds to support the ministry of the UCMF, which is critical to the overall mission and ministry of the United Church.

The United Church Men's Fellowship thanks all who supported the Walk-a-thon by contributing. We also thank the following entities for stepping in as sponsors: Guardian Life, Mystic Mountain, Insurance Association of Jamaica, Dunn's Electrical and Lighting, DC Tavares and Finson, Jamaica Transport Service, and The Water Place. If you wish to donate to the Men's Fellowship, please contact President-General Rodney who will be more than happy to facilitate same.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to  
*Rev. Paul DaCosta-Pinto who  
 was inducted at the St. John's  
 United Church last Sunday.*

## 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.
- Patients, families and workers in the health sector in the Cayman Islands and Jamaica.
- Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID 19.
- Those who have loss loved ones to COVID-19.
- Crime and Violence in Jamaica.
- The people of Haiti and Afghanistan.
- Victims, family members and those affected by the operations and principles of Pathway International Kingdom Restoration Ministries in St. James.

### **Almighty God,**

God grant me the serenity  
 To accept the things I cannot change;  
 Courage to change the things I can;  
 And wisdom to know the difference.  
 Living one day at a time;  
 Enjoying one moment at a time;  
 Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;  
 Taking, as He did, this sinful world  
 As it is, not as I would have it;  
 Trusting that He will make all things right  
 If I surrender to His Will;  
 So that I may be reasonably happy in this life  
 And supremely happy with Him  
 Forever and ever in the next.

Amen.

# Cayman Regional Mission Council (CIRMC)

## Mental Health, Creative Expression



On Friday November 12, 2021, the Teens' Youth Group of Savannah United Church were engaged in a lively discussion with Ms. Ginnel Nelson from the Department of Education Services who shared on the benefits of healthy mental habits, especially during the COVID pandemic. She then guided both teens and leaders in an art expression activity that was very relaxing and fun for all participants.

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

## Cayman Islands

The number of COVID-19 cases in the Cayman Islands continues to rise. Of the 4,917 confirmed cases, 3,340 are active with 4 deaths and 21 persons in the hospital. 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. The restrictions are in place until November 22, 2021.

## Jamaica

There are 90,341 confirmed cases of which 1,025 are active with 2,331 deaths. The Government of Jamaica, on November 16, 2021, announced amendments to orders under the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA). These provisions are for the period November 18 to December 9, 2021.

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

**November 28, 2021**

Watch what weighs down your heart

First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33: 14 – 16

1 Thessalonians 3: 9– 13

Luke 21 : 25 – 36

The heart is an integral part of our lives and speaks to life and death. Jesus in our text warns his audience to be “careful, or their hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life” are these not things which seem to take the centre of our advent today? It’s all about who can spend big, and those who cannot end up getting stressed. This has been a threat for many years to family unity and stability.



**Pastor Alja Dias**  
Nov 24



**Rev. Stotrell Lowe**  
Nov 24

**Rev. Lascelle Tulloch**  
Nov 29



**Rev. Delroy Harris**  
Nov 29



# Notices



**International  
University  
of the  
Caribbean**

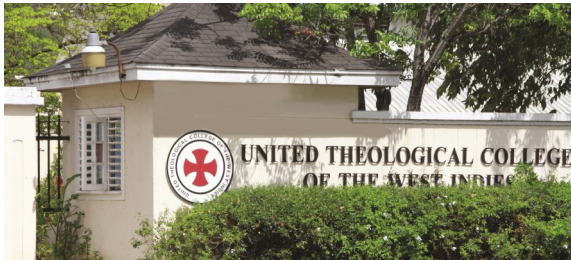
## ANNUAL GRADUATION



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



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



**United Theological College of the West Indies  
invites applications for the following short course:**

### *Advanced Certificate in Leadership Skills for Church and Society*

#### What will you learn?

Theory and practice of leadership.  
How to lead as decision-maker, motivator, and communicator.  
How to lead during chaos, crisis, and conflict.  
How to lead by design.  
How to lead as project manager and entrepreneur.

#### Why should you enroll?

**Build** your capacity to be a transformational leader, and lead ethically.  
**Fulfill** your leadership potential through acquisition of a range of leadership styles, competencies and strategies.  
**Acquire** skills in team building, strategic planning and decision-making.

#### For whom?

Managers and middle managers in schools to include; Principals, Vice Principals, Senior Teachers, Guidance Counselors, Work Experience persons, and others who aspire to leadership positions in their organization... Church, Service Clubs, Volunteers Organization, and other social or societal groups.

**Course Duration:** January 22, to March 6, 2022

**Cost:** USD \$300.00



7 Golding Avenue, Kingston 7  
Tel: 876-927-1724, 927-2868 | Email: [jthompson@utcwi.edu.jm](mailto:jthompson@utcwi.edu.jm)

**Registration closes January 14, 2022**

**United Theological College of the West Indies  
invites applications for the following short course:**

### *Music and Worship*

#### What will you learn?

The technological fundamentals of church audio setup and use.  
The value of the digital world to church maintenance and growth.  
Locate the value of music in the functional life of church.  
How to identify the defining features of Caribbean church music.  
How music enhances church life.

#### Why should you enroll?

**Expand** your knowledge of how music works in church life.  
**Broaden** your view of technological advances in music.  
**Acquire** skills in how technology enhances the use of music in different settings with focus on the Caribbean experience.

#### For whom?

Choir Directors, Pastors, Deacons, Musicians  
Retreat Leaders, Lay Leaders, Choir Members  
Praise Team Members.

#### Course Duration:

January 15, to March 5, 2022.

**Cost:** USD \$75.00



7 Golding Avenue, Kingston 7  
Tel: 876-927-1724, 927-2868  
Email: [jthompson@utcwi.edu.jm](mailto:jthompson@utcwi.edu.jm)

**Registration closes January 7, 2022**

**Calling All Able Bodied Volunteers To  
Join us on Saturday, Dec 11, 2021 at  
THE SENIOR CITIZENS HOME for a  
CLEAN UP WORK DAY. Call Miss  
Bailey @8769623768/whatsapp her at  
876373-8474 if you are interested in  
giving back to this ministry.**



**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

***Contact us***

**Address:** 12 Carlton Crescent, Kingston 10 || **Telephone No:** 876 926-8734

**E-mail Address:** syod@ucjci.com || **Website:** www.ucjci.com || **YouTube:** UCJCI's Channel

**Instagram:** @UCJCI