

# The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

## Weekly Update

May 11, 2022 || Volume 9 Issue 19  
May- Child's Month



### *From Farm to Table at Mount Olivet Boys' Home* -Sheree Oconnor Programme Secretary, SRMC

Since 2018, the Mount Olivet Boys' Home in Manchester has been on a mission to provide quality tea leaves. The project began with conversation with the leadership of Jamaica Information Service, Mr Norman Wright, CEO of Perishables Jamaica Limited and Mr. Patrick Newman, Director of the Mount Olivet Boys Home (MOBH).

A demand for tea was noted and created an income generating opportunity for the home. One hundred (100) tea plants were donated to start the project. These included Peppermint, Neem and Rosemary. Additional Peppermint plants have since been added to the project.

The home received assistance and training in caring for the plants and the proper way to reap in order to provide leaves of optimal quality.

After harvesting the leaves, they are dried and sold to Perishables Jamaica Limited, manufacturers of Tops and Sipacupa tea brands. The harvest a few months ago generated \$59,000 in revenue, with another harvest to take place in the next couple of months.

Residents of the home have also gotten involved with the project under the guidance of Mr. Rohan Loney, the

farmer at the home. This creates an opportunity for the boys to learn about tea plants and to earn pocket money.

### **Other activities**

As MOBH seeks to improve its food security, other farming projects are on-going. Crops like plantain, banana, cabbage, carrot and pak choi are also grown. Cassava is also grown with prospects of a market. Animal rearing of pigs, goats and cows are part of the farming activities as well.

Most of the farm's yield goes towards providing meals for the boys and the excess is sold.

### **Challenges**

All is not copacetic as the cost of labour on the farm does pose a challenge for the home. Furthermore, the greenhouse, a major source of revenue, was damaged in Tropical Storm Grace in 2021. However, help on the farm is received occasionally and members of the Diaspora in Georgia are assisting with greenhouse repairs.

With 12.8% of Jamaicans experiencing food insecurity in Jamaica, according to a report released in January 2021, it is imperative that we use our resources to increase availability and access to food. Mount Olivet Boys' Home is an excellent example of using available resources to generate income as well as to provide food.



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# Gardening Tip



## Composting

This is the process of recycling organic material into a valuable fertilizer that can enrich soil and plants. It improves the soil's physical characteristics; increases the soil capacity to hold water and nutrients and increases soil aeration.

### *Materials for Composting Include:*

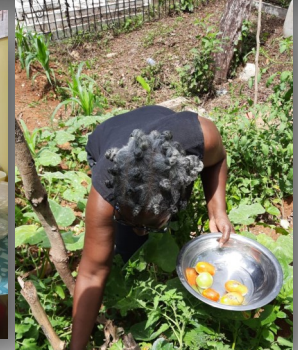
- Kitchen scraps such as fruit and vegetable trimmings, coffee grounds and filters, and eggshells. Do not use animal products.
- Some other materials that can be used for composting are dry leaves, grass clippings, manure, sawdust and shredded newspaper.



## *The Backyard Church Garden of Little London United Church in Westmoreland*

This project is spearheaded by Elder Maxine Gooden. The produce from this garden supports the Soup Kitchen run by the Congregation.

Approximately 40 persons in need, benefit weekly from this Ministry.



# Prayer Requests

- Rev. Rohan Kong, his wife Stephanie and their son, Joel Kong.
- Rev. Dr. Henroy Samuels and family on the sudden passing of his niece in the United States of America
- Family and friends of Mr. Paul Miller who passed on yesterday
- Alando Meredith who lost his sister and mom
- Dericca Ellis who lost her father
- Rev. Delroy Harris whose niece passed recently
- Rev. Laddia Young and her family. A shooting incident resulted in the death of her step mother and the wounding of her father and one of her brothers
- Patients, families and workers in the health sector in the Cayman Islands and Jamaica
- Ukraine and all affected by the invasion of Russia.
- Victims and perpetrators of crime and violence in Jamaica and security force and government as they respond
- Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID-19

## Liturgy for at Home Worship

<p><b>May 15, 2022</b></p> <p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b></p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 11: 1-18</p> <p><b>Responsive Reading:</b> Psalm 148</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> St. John 13: 31-35</p>	<p><b>Resilient:</b> <b>Love one another</b></p>	<p>Love is a choice. It is not always easy to love for one reason or another. Nonetheless, we are called to love irrespective of...</p>
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## Prayer

Dear Lord,

We pray for the lost, the hurting, the lonely, the sick, the bereaved, and those who are imprisoned— behind both visible and invisible walls. Send your comfort, your peace, and your calming presence to those who are without hope. Protect the defenseless, and hold them close to your heart.

*New Members at John Gray Memorial  
-CIRMC*

On May 1, 2022, John Gray Memorial Church received into membership the following persons.

L-R Brendell Rivers, Naoki Montoya, Raishel Montoya, Beverly Simpson and Maxine Everson (on transfer from Savannah)



**COVID-19 UPDATES**  
Affecting Congregational Life

*Cayman Islands*

**ACTIVE CASES**

**1608**

**DEATHS**

**28**

**NEW CASES**

**132**

\*COVID-19 statistics as of May 11, 2022.

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. The 1000 - person limit on outdoor public gatherings has been lifted, but the indoor mask mandate remains in place. These new regulations came into effect on April 28, 2022.

*Jamaica*

**ACTIVE CASES**

**1454**

\*In the last 2 weeks

**DEATHS**

**5**

**NEW CASES**

**110**

\*In the last 24 hours

\*COVID-19 statistics as of May 10, 2022.

Effective April 15, 2022, the Government of Jamaica has expired further Covid-19 protocols including mandatory mask wearing. In light of this, mask wearing is no longer mandatory for staff and visitors within the UCJCI's offices effective Tuesday, April 19, 2022. It is a blessing that the restrictions are lifted however, we need to consider the health and well-being of those around us. For meetings/gatherings involving five (5) or more persons, it is recommend that for personnel safety masks be worn as well as consideration be given to individual personal space.

# NOTICES

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

## TECHNOLOGY TRAINING SEMINARS

MARCH - MAY 2022



- DATA COLLECTION & MANAGEMENT
- SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES
- LIVE STREAMING & PRODUCTION

First Saturdays are theoretical sessions via Zoom.  
On the second Saturdays, the practical sessions for Live Streaming and Production will be done at the locations below:


	<b>WRMC &amp; CIRM</b> St. Paul's (St. James) Apr 23/30	<b>SRMC</b> Ridgemount May 14/21
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**REGISTER NOW**

<https://training.ucjci.com>

876-926-6059

## 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**



# "IGNITE" FOR CHRIST

## LOOK OUT FOR VIRTUAL TRAINING SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022

### GET READY FOR FACE TO FACE VBS 2022




United Church in Jamaica & the Cayman Islands

# NERMC Church School Rally

Theme: "Children of God helping others discover Christ."

**SUNDAY MAY 29, 2022 @ 2:00 pm**  
Webster Memorial United Church

**Activities:**  
Roll Call, Entrance of the Banners, Poster and Poetry Competitions, Performances from the various Church schools.

**An evening of Fun and Fellowship.**



In Honour of

# The Pringle Home for Children

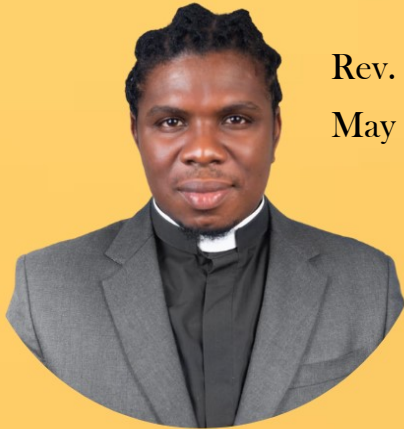
## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Congregations are requested to do a *walk-up offering* every Sunday during May 2022.

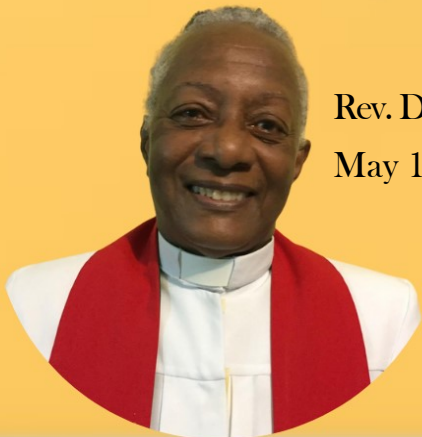
Proceeds are for the centenary celebration.



# Happy Birthday



Rev. Kevin Calvert  
May 15



Rev. Dr. Loma Lettts-Jones  
May 17

## NOTICES

Children You're Invited to

# Dynamic Kids in Action for Christ!

Sunday 22nd May @5pm

ZOOM  
Meeting ID: 892 9433 4284  
Passcode: 279940



*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

UCYAAM  
**CONFERENCE**  
**2022** | AUG. 18-21, 2022 | 50th Edition  
Madge Saunders Conference  
Tower Isle, St. Mary

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY  
LIMITED SPACE

# **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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