



The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

February 22, 2023 || Volume 10 Issue 06

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday- Lent

The period of lent starts with a celebration and ends with a celebration. It is a time to celebrate the lord but it is also a time to reflect, fast, pray, and prepare for easter.

Jesus himself went into the wilderness to fast for these 40 days in preparation for the fulfillment of the promise. During this time, He was tempted by the devil.

This holy season is one of self-denial. Jesus taught us to rid ourselves of evil to prepare and share in the fulfillment of the promise on the horizon.

Lent is a journey that is supposed to involve praying and fasting- sacrifice. A time of mourning and penitence, and we start with ashes.

Why Ashes?

Ashes are a sign of remorse, repentance, and mourning. It became a common practice that when a person needed penitence or was going to begin a fast they would cover themselves with ashes.

Look at these biblical examples:

-When David's daughter Tamar was raped by her brother she expressed her deep grief:

2 Samuel 13:19

19 Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the ornamented robe she was wearing. She put her hand on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went.

-When Mordecai learned that the King signed a decree to have all the Jews killed, he and the Jewish people lamented:

Esther 4:1-3 NIV

1 When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the city, wailing loudly and bitterly. 2 But he went only as far as the king's gate, because no one clothed in sackcloth was allowed to enter it. 3 In every province to which the edict and order of the king came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping, and wailing. Many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

-When Jeremiah, the prophet, predicted the invasion of his people, he called them to

penitence saying:

Jeremiah 6:26

26 O my people, put on sackcloth and roll in ashes; mourn with bitter wailing as for an only son, for suddenly the destroyer will come upon us.

-When Daniel needed deliverance, he went to the Lord in prayer having prepared himself:

Daniel 9:3

3 So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.

When Job finally began to understand God's lesson for him, he began to turn wholeheartedly towards God saying:

Job 42:1-6 NIV

6 Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.

As Christians, let us focus on the hard things Jesus did so we can appreciate and enjoy in truth the goodness and joy found in Christ.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Light of true light,
Truth of deepest truth,
we find peace in your perfection,
we find courage in your strength,
we find wisdom in your truth,
we find hope in your presence.

You are our beginning and our end,
the first and the last,
the forgiver and redeemer of all things
and we worship you as
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Creator, Redeemer, and Guide,
one God,
now and forever.

Loving and everlasting God,
nothing is beyond the reach of your love.
You offer forgiveness to all who turn to
you in confession.

**Forgive us for the words we have not spoken
and for the words we should not have said.**

**Forgive us for the good we have failed to do
and the evil we have done.**

**Forgive us for the love we have refused to
give and the grudges we have held.**

**Create in us clean hearts,
forgive our past transgressions,**

amend who we are,

and direct who you would have us be;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

**who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit,**

one God, for ever and ever.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear and believe, anyone who is in Christ is a
new creation. The old life is gone, the new life
has come. Know that you are forgiven and
forgive one another.

Liturgy for Worship at Home

First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

RETURN for Strength to Withstand Temptation

- Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

-Psalm 32

- Romans 5:12-19

- Matthew 4:1-11

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
presents

43RD SYNOD

Theme

"ROOTED, RESILIENT:
REIGNITED BY THE SPIRIT"

STAY
TUNED FOR
MORE
UPDATES

Blended Modality
**REGISTER
NOW!**

The registration portal closes
on Feb. 28. 2023.

*For those applying for Cayman Visa
registration ends on Feb. 15. 2023.

START

**APRIL
23**

END

**APRIL
30**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL OFFICES OR VISIT
<https://synod.ucjci.com>

Synod Bible Study

During the 43rd Synod, the Bible Study will explore the Synodical Theme, 'Rooted and Resilient: Reignited by the Spirit', through the Regional sub-themes. Each Regional Mission Council has been assigned a sub-theme that reflects its

theological and ministry focus. The Cayman Islands Regional

Mission Council's focus is REALIGN.

The following is an indication of the theme for each day and the

underlying focus:

- Monday REALIGN with Worship
- Tuesday RECONNECT with Children and Youth
- Wednesday REIGNITE our Stewardship
- Thursday RETURN to Witness/Evangelism

The Bible Study will be available on the UCJCI YouTube Channel at 6:00 am each day. Join us for an enriching experience as we explore the Synod Theme and sub-themes.



International University of the Caribbean: The Student-Centered University of the 21st Century

As we enter the 4th Industrial revolution, we need to provide an education which fits students for the contemporary workplaces. These are workplaces filled with augmented technologies to drive creativity, innovation, disruptive solutions, and national wealth. IUC can equip you for this new workspace. IUC offers programmatic solutions, geared towards fulfilling the needs of those agents of social change and first world workplace enablers.

IUC Colleges

Mel Nathan College (MNC) addresses the business and professional needs of students. The college which originally started as Mel Nathan Institute has over 38 years of serving student and community needs across the Caribbean. The Programmes offered:

- Bachelor of Science: Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science: Business Administration with specialization in Programme and Project Management
- Bachelor of Science: Programme and Project Management
- Bachelor of Arts: Community Development
- Master of Business Administration: Logistics and Supply Chain Management

MNC also offers Certificate courses in:

- Supervisor Management
- Risk Management
- Community Leadership
- Youth at Risk Programme (European/Heart Trust funded)
- NVQJ level 2: Allied health (Six Form Pathway)
- NVQJ level 2: Business administration (Six Form Pathway)
- NVQJ level 2 & 3: Allied health
- NVQJ level 2 & 3: Business administration

College for Leadership and Theological Development (CLTD) has served the Caribbean region for over 20 years as a professional service provider in the fields of behavioral science and education. The College has developed expertise in the following Programmes:

- Bachelor of Arts: General Studies
- Bachelor of Arts: Psychology
- Master of Education: Educational Administration and Leadership

CLTD also offers Certificate courses in:

- Building Resilience & Wellness.
- Coaching and Online Counselling

IUC Peace Institute and Extended Learning Centre provides customized Peace and Violence Prevention Training for industries. We can also customize Peace Training to meet the objectives of organizations. The Institute will host a Peace Symposium:

March 9, 2023

Theme: Overcoming Conflicts Through Peacebuilding in Schools

IUC equips you for the international workplace.

Apply Now!

IUC accepts you where you are and takes you where you want to be.

47 Old Hope Road, Kingston 5, Jamaica, West Indies || Tel: 876.754.1921/8727
Email: communicationsadmin@iuc.edu.jm / Info@iuc.edu.jm
WhatsApp: 876.325.8426 (text only) || Website: www.iuc.edu.jm

Annual Girls' Brigade Tea Party



The 13th Annual Girls' Brigade National Council Tea Party took place on Saturday, February 11, 2023 at Mr. Handel and Audrey Whittaker's residence in Frank Sound depicting the theme "Valentine's Teatime". The over 80 persons in attendance included Mrs. Marisa Crawford (Cert. Hon.), President of the Cayman Islands Girls' Brigade, who also acted as Masters of Ceremonies, Dep. Chair Mrs. Wendy Stenning, and Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield (RDGS, Girl's Brigade Chaplain).

The event was a great success. The programme included special items presented by each company (songs and an instrumental solo by Kezzia King on Cello). For refreshments, tea, sandwiches, fruit and juice were served. As a special treat, a chocolate fountain made the event even sweeter. Special thanks are in order to the gracious hosts and all those who planned, facilitated and contributed to this memorable event. Mia Groves sang the solo item "Hallelujah".



D'Leah Cardoza performed a solo (with her mom, Ms. Ivana).

Opportunities

ST. ANDREW PREPARATORY SCHOOL



The Board of Directors, ST. ANDREW PREPARATORY SCHOOL seeks to recruit a suitably qualified candidate to fill the position of PRINCIPAL as at March 2023.

JOB SUMMARY

The principal is the instructional leader and is responsible for directing the affairs of the School in a manner that harmonizes with the policies established by the Board of Directors and the guidelines of the Ministry of Education. S/he plans and directs the activities of the school through prudent financial management, adherence to a well-defined strategic development plan and sensitive human resource management, while maintaining the highest quality of educational and physical facilities offerings.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Applicants should meet the following criteria.

- Master's Degree in Education/Educational Administration or a related field
- Trained Teacher Certification.
- Knowledge of the Education Act and Regulations as well as school administrative processes
- Knowledge of ICT in Education.
- At least (3) years' experience in a similar capacity or in a senior leadership position
- Possess excellent interpersonal skills, with the ability to work with team members at various levels
- Excellent oral and written communication skills along with strong presentation skills
- A propensity to think creatively and "outside the box" with highly developed analytical and problem-solving skills

KEY SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Knowledge of the school's philosophy and mission.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Exceptional interpersonal skills for developing working relationships with a wide range of persons
- Excellent Customer and Client Management skills
- Ability to multitask and manage a varied workload
- Excellent Time Management and Organisational Skills
- Outstanding analytic, problem-solving, and decision-making skills
- Good Administrative and Managerial skills
- Distinct display of initiative, high level of integrity and confidentiality
- Ability to work under pressure and for extra-ordinary hours

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- * Share a common vision of the school with stakeholders that sets high expectations for staff and students. Develop the School Improvement Plan in collaboration with the Staff, School Board, Supervisory Officer and other stakeholders
- * Ensure that the school's objectives are aligned to the policies of the Ministry of Education and the Churches' Christian principles.
- * Encourage and support parental involvement in students' learning.
- * Maintain visibility with students, teachers, parents and the School Board
- * Utilize financial and human resources to fully accomplish the goals and mission of the school
- * Establish and maintain an effective inventory system for all school supplies, materials and equipment
- * Assist the School Board in verifying the existence of vacant posts and participate in the recruitment and selection process for all staff.
- * Establish the annual master schedule for instructional programmes in the face-to-face and/or virtual domain
- * Maintain a positive school climate and school morale.
- * Ability to effectively interact with the public

Interested persons should submit their application by February 28, 2023, to:

**THE CHAIRMAN
C/O ST. ANDREW PREPARATORY SCHOOL
2-6 CECELIO AVENUE, KINGSTON 10**

OR email: stapsbursarydept@gmail.com
with ATTENTION: PRINCIPAL VACANCY in the subject line

WE WISH TO THANK ALL APPLICANTS FOR THEIR INTEREST HOWEVER, ONLY SHORT-LISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED FOR INTERVIEWS.

The International University of the Caribbean is seeking the services of a
Recruiter.

Requirements

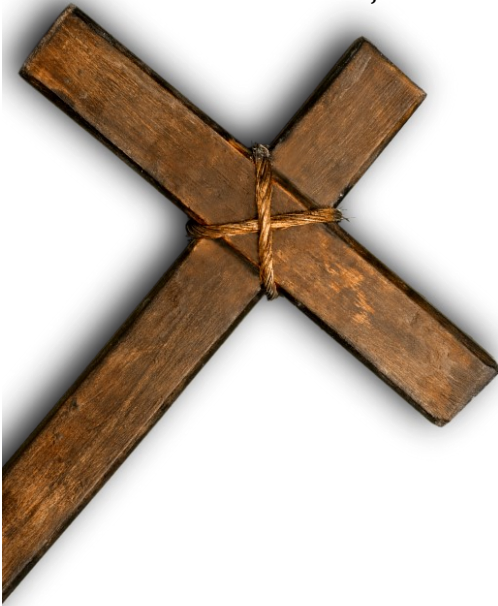
- Be competent with the basic software applications
- Have knowledge of the marketplace
- Be able to offer strong marketing within the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands network
- Be able to meet commission-based recruitment targets
- Have great social skills
- Be student-friendly

Send your Resume and Cover Letter to ceemis@iuc.edu.jm

Circulate within your network.

PRAYER Corner

- Rev. Walter Russell who lost his sister, Ms. Janet Grey
- Rev. Bryan Stone who was briefly hospitalized but is now at home recuperating from illness
- Those affected by earthquake in Syria and Turkey
- The McNish family as they mourn the passing of Mr. Leslie McNish, former Chairman of WRMC and Elder of the St. Paul's United Church
- Rev. Tamara Smith Coleman who lost her father
- The son of Mrs. Sheila Arscott Smith, Jerome, who is recovering from injuries from car crash
- Ms. Joy Williams who lost her brother and sister
- People affected by the war between Ukraine and Russian
- Crime and violence in Jamaica and the security force and government as they respond

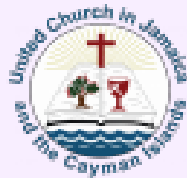


Dear God,

God, help us to value diversity beyond variety. Help us value diversity with a vision for a progressive future that acknowledges our strength together as well as the power, creativity, ideas, and part that we all bring when we are all welcome – to come to the table and taste and see that the Lord is good.

Help our brothers and sisters in suffering. Ordain a band of unity and support in chaos and turmoil.

Amen.



NOTICEBOARD



TRAINING FOR LAY LEADERS

Equipping the saints for the work of ministry

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!

Register now for Module 1.

Training begins **March 11, 2023** and continues **2nd and 4th Saturdays** (9 - 1:30 pm) and **Thursdays** (6 - 8 pm) following each training Saturday. Module 1 concludes in August.

Delivery online via Zoom.
Learners may join online from one location in each region by special arrangement with Regional Mission Council offices.
Cost: \$9000

ORIENTATION SESSION

Come and learn about the Training

An Orientation session is planned for those who register as well as others who are interested in learning more about the Training for Lay Leaders Course.

This will be held on Saturday **March 4, 2023** online from 9 am - 11:30 a.m. via Zoom

Meeting ID: 879 2238 3834
Passcode: 192859

UCJCI Lay Leaders Certificate Course is designed to prepare lay persons to serve in leadership.

For more information, contact your Regional Mission Council or email: laytraining_admin@ucjci.com or WhatsApp 876 8818783



UCJCI NOTICES



ST. ANDREW PREPARATORY SCHOOL
FOUNDED IN 1921 BY THE METHODIST & UNITED CHURCHES
WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

WHERE WE IGNITE THE PASSION FOR LEARNING

NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION
K1 - AGES 3 - 4

CALL - 876 920 5728
 OR
 VISIT THE SCHOOL
 2 CECILIO AVENUE
 KINGSTON 10



**International University of the Caribbean
 Peace Institute
 and
 United Church in Jamaica and Cayman Islands**

presents

**A
 Symposium
 on
 Peacebuilding in Schools**

**THEME: Overcoming Conflicts through
 Peacebuilding in Schools**

DATE: THURSDAY MARCH 9, 2023
 TIME: 9AM - 3PM
 VENUE: ALHAMBRA INN
 1 TUCKER AVENUE,
 KINGSTON

For Further Information Contact: Alicia Lamonth (876) 754-1921



*Tune in to United in Faith Sundays
 on **RJR 94 F.M at 6:30 a.m.***



Happy Birthday



Rev'd. Icylyn Parkinson
 February 27



UNITED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
OF THE WEST INDIES

FOUNDERS' DAY 2023



WORSHIP SERVICE

Monday, March 6 @ 6:00 p.m.

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Collin Cowan
Minister of the Emmanuel/ Boscobel Charge of United Churches
Former General Secretary of the Council for World Mission



LECTURES

Tuesday, March 7 @ 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Theme: "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains... (Isaiah 52:7) -
The Caribbean Pulpit"

Speaker: Dr. Winston A. Thompson
President, Jamaica Theological Seminary



THE INAUGURAL CLEMENT GAYLE COLLOQUIUM ON PREACHING

Wednesday, March 8 @ 9:00 a.m.

Topic: "The Celebration of Preaching in the Caribbean
Church."

Speaker: Rev. Neville Callam
Former General Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance

Meeting ID: 823 2586 7640 Passcode: FD2023

876-927-1724/2868

UTCWI Chapel

YouTube @utcwi

Cars For Sale

Enquires and offers can
be made at the Synod
Office.

- 2016 Hyundai Tucson 4WD
- 2017 Volkswagen Tiguan

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



TECHNICAL SUPPORT NEEDED

Lay Leaders Training

Are you skilled in using the ZOOM platform?

Are you available 2nd and 4th Saturdays and the following
Thursday?

If your answer is YES, we need you!

Contact: Karen Francis, Lay Training Coordinator
karen-francis@ucjci.com

a gratuity will be offered

UCJCI Weekly Update || pg 11



The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands
SOUTHERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

UPCOMING EVENTS FEBRUARY 2023

12

SRMC WOMEN'S
FELLOWSHIP RALLY



22

ASH WEDNESDAY
CONVENTION

25

UCMF MEN'S
CONVENTION

11, 18 & 25

EVANGELISM
TRAINING

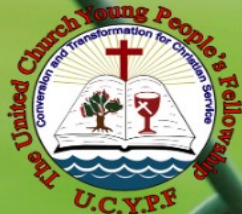
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON EACH
EVENT WILL BE SHARED AT A LATER DATE

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



**18TH
MARCH**

WE'RE BACK !!

NATIONAL

SPORTS

DAY



**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: synod@ucjci.com

Website: www.ucjci.com

YouTube: UCJCI's Channel

Instagram: @UCJCI

**We appreciate your feedback.
Please send your comments and input to
citc@ucjci.com**