

# The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

March 8, 2023 || Volume 10 Issue 08

Lent

March 8  International Women’s Day  
Theme  Embrace Equity

According to the International Women’s Day website (2023), the aim of this year’s #EmbraceEquality theme is “to get the world talking about why equal opportunities aren’t enough.”

So many conversations have been had about the need for equity versus equality yet, we often struggle to understand the difference. Here is a simple breakdown:

*“Equality means each individual or group of people is given the same resources or opportunities.*

*Equity recognizes that each person has different circumstances, and allocates the exact resources and opportunities needed to reach an equal outcome.”*

*-Equality versus Equity: What's the difference as we #EmbraceEquity for IWD 2023 and beyond? (2023)*

See illustration retrieved from the IWD website (2023):

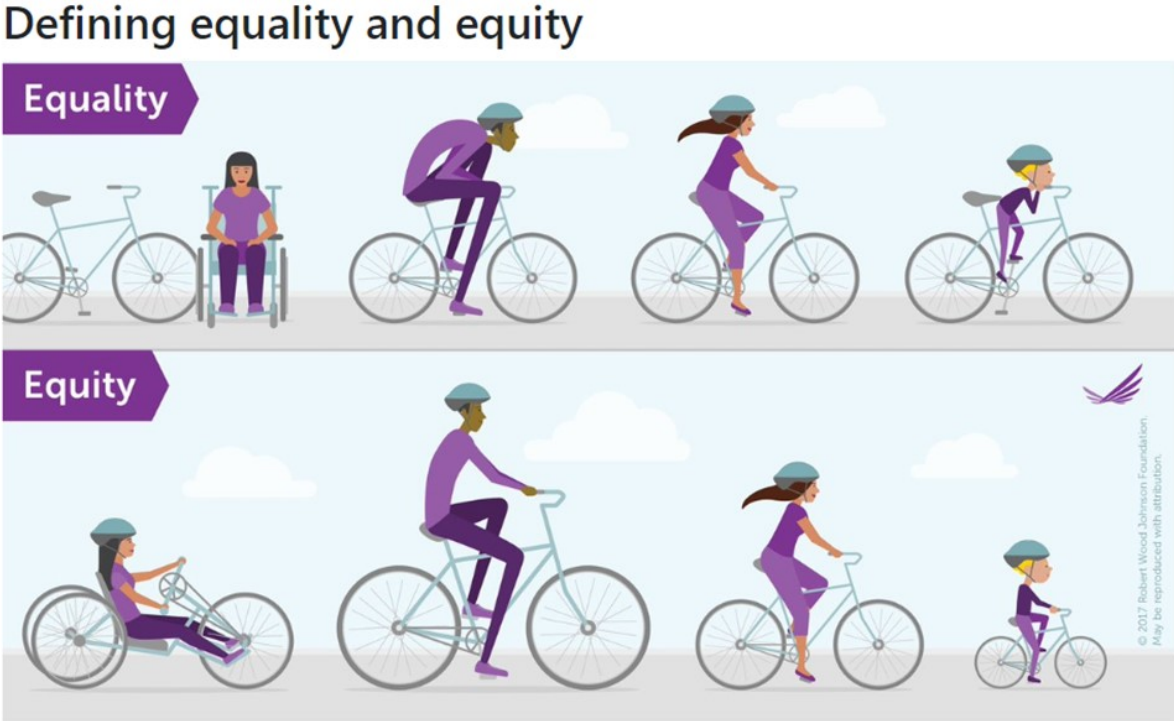


Image source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

# MT. GRACIOUS UCYAAM ONE-DAY CONVENTION, NERM

Rock Hall, Portland, 'ketch a fire' as the Young Adults of Mt. Gracious United Church hosted a One-Day Convention on Sunday, March 5, 2023. '

After a hiatus, because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, a call to *Arise and Go Forward* was heard and championed by representatives from Buff Bay, Castleton, Chepstowe, Fairy Hill, Hope Bay, and Shrewsbury United Church congregations, as well as representatives from more than six other churches in the neighborhood. The fellowship was warm and welcoming, the praise was inspiring and energizing, the proclaimed word was powerful and challenging, and the testimony of elderly Sis. Jean Edwards, who had been diagnosed with cancer and sent home to die, was riveting and refreshing. She was alive and present to deliver her testimony in person! Four persons committed their lives to Christ at the end of the morning worship. To God be the glory!

Pastors Vernice Downer (*Hope Bay, Mt. Gracious, and Fairy Hill*) and Wayne Stewart (*Chepstowe, Shrewsbury, and Craigmill*) were a force to be reckoned with as they joined the 13-member Mt. Gracious Young Adults' Action Movement in galvanizing those present around the call to **ARISE and GO FORWARD**. It was a wonderful day well spent by all who attended.



## (Training for Lay Leaders) UCJCI Lay Leaders Certificate Course



### 2023 Module 1 Schedule

- (Sat) March 11. - The Lay Leader in UCJCI
- (Sat) March 25. - Introduction to Leadership
- (Sat) April 1. - Planning and Leading Bible Study
- (Sat) May 13. - Strategic Planning for Church Growth
- (Sat) May 27. - The Church Then and Now – How Did We Get Here?
- (Sat) June 10 - Planning and Leading Worship
- (Sat) June 24. - Understanding the Sacraments
- (Thu) June 29. - The Leader as Evangelist
- (Thu) July 13. - Church Administration
- (Thu) July 27. - Communication
- (Thu) August 17. - The Leader as Caregiver

All sessions are on Zoom. Registration is necessary to have access to the sessions. Please register with your Minister.

**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](mailto:laytraining_admin@ucjci.com) or WhatsApp 876 8818783

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



# 2023 SYNOD UPDATES

*Rooted, Resilient: Re-ignited by the Spirit  
(Return, Reconnect, Realign, Re-ignite)*

**Date: April 23 – 30, 2023**

**Model: Blended**

**Locations: Emslie Memorial/Savannah United (CIRMC)**

# ORDER OF BUSINESS AND ENGAGEMENTS

## Sunday, April 23, 2023

- 4.00 p.m. Opening Service – Emslie Memorial
- Synod Constitutes
- Induction of the Moderator
- Theme Expression

## Monday, April 24, 2023

- 6 a.m. – 6.45 a.m. Online Bible Study – “Realign our Worship”
- 7.15 a.m. Breakfast (Cayman)
- 8.00 a.m. Bible Study rebroadcast (Cayman)
- 9.00- 9.50 a.m. Delegates Bible Study Reflections
- 10.00 am – 11.30 am Business Session 1
  - Courtesies, Orientation, Minutes, Invitation to Resolutions
  - General Secretary’s Synod Report Presentation
- 11.30 – 12.50 p.m. Business Session 2 (Table Group Discussion)
- 12.45- 1.00 p.m. Regional Story (Cayman)
- 1.00 – 2.00 p.m. Lunch
- 2.00 - 3.00 p.m. Business 3 (Supplementary Report)
- 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. Presentation and Plenary
- 6.00 p.m. Moderator’s Reception

## Tuesday, April 24, 2023

- 6 a.m. – 6.45 a.m. Online Bible Study - *Reconnect our Relationship with Children and Youth*
- 7.15 a.m. Breakfast (Cayman)
- 8.00 a.m. Bible Study rebroadcast (Cayman)

- 9.00 - 9.50 a.m. Delegates' Bible Study Reflections
- 10.00 - 11.00 a.m. Business Session 4
  - Courtesies and Minutes
  - Tenure Awards
- 11.00 - 12.45 a.m. Engaging Children's Ministry
- 12.45 - 1.00 p.m. Book Launch "**Called to Serve**" – Rev. Raymond Coke
- 1.00 – 2.00 p.m. Lunch
- 2.00 - 2.15 p.m. Regional Story (WRMC)
- 2.15 - 4.00 p.m. Business Session 5
  - Engaging Youth Ministry
- 6.00 pm Celebration of Life and Witness – Emslie Memorial

### **Wednesday, April 25, 2023**

- 6 a.m. – 6.45 a.m. Online Bible Study - *Reignite our Stewardship and Leadership*
- 7.15 a.m. Breakfast (Cayman)
- 8.00 a.m. Bible Study rebroadcast (Cayman)
- 9.00 - 9.50 a.m. Delegates' Bible Study Reflections
- 10.00 - 11.15 a.m. Business Session 5
  - Courtesies and Minutes
  - Resiliency Awards
  - Presentation JCC (Food and Nutrition)
  - Report on Examination of Council Records
- 11.00 – 1.00 p.m. Inter-regional Breakout Groups
- 1.00 – 2.00 p.m. Lunch
- 2.00 – 2.15 Regional Story (SRMC)
- 2.15 – 3.30 p.m. Engaging the Moderator
- 3.30 – 4.00 p.m. Business Session 6
  - Report on the Regional Meetings
- 6.00 pm Public Lecture

### **Thursday, April 26, 2023**

- 6 a.m. – 6.45 a.m. Online Bible Study - *Return to Discipleship*
- 7.15 a.m. Breakfast (Cayman)
- 8.00 a.m. Bible Study rebroadcast (Cayman)
- 9.00- 9.50 a.m. Delegates' Bible Study Reflections
- 10.00 - 12.45 p.m. Business Session 7
  - Courtesies and Minutes
  - Resiliency Awards
  - Presentations and Plenary
- 12.45 – 1.00 p.m. Regional Story (NERMC)
- 1.00 – 2.00 p.m. Lunch
- 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. Business Session 8
  - Report of the Listening Team
  - Resolutions
  - Minutes
  - Evaluation
  - Acknowledgment
  - Closing Devotion

### **Friday, April 27, 2023**

- Immersion Experience (Cayman)

### **Sunday, April 28, 2023**

- 4.00 p.m. Closing Service – Emslie Memorial



**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>

## Service of Life and Witness

On Tuesday, April 25, 2023, the Service of Life and Witness will be held at the Elmslie Memorial Church at 6:00 pm.

This service memorializes those who have faithfully served the Church and have been called home during the 2021 – 2023 Synodical period. A floral tribute will be done in their honor. The Synod will celebrate the witness and ministry of persons attaining significant Ordination milestones during the service. Lay Persons from the four Regional Mission Councils will receive Special Synodical Awards for their dedication and faithfulness at the Congregational and Council levels. Along with the awardees from each region, all ministers and lay pastors will receive Certificates of Appreciation for the resilience shown during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Moderator, Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott will preach, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.

All are invited to attend this service and share in the celebrations with the awardees.

## Liturgy for Worship at Home

Third Sunday in Lent  
March 12, 2023.

### Transforming our Ministry (*Evangelism & Discipleship*)

- Exodus 17:1-7
- Psalm 95
- Romans 5:1-11
- **John 4:5-42**

# Prayer Corner

- Family and friends of Mrs. Ena Stewart, WRMC Delegate who passed yesterday
- 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 recent earthquakes
- 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

Lord God Almighty,

Strengthen us against the temptations of the devil, and remove from us all lust and every unrighteousness, and shield us against our foes, seen and unseen.

Teach us to do your will, that we may inwardly love you before all things with a pure mind. For you are our maker and our redeemer, our help, our comfort, our trust, our hope; praise and glory be to you now and forever.

Amen.





# IMPORTANT

>>> **ANNOUNCEMENT** <<<



United Church Young People's Fellowship

# SYNODICAL SPORTS DAY



**"Rooted, Resilient: Reignited by the Spirit"**

**Noranda Sports Complex**

**Saturday March 18, 2023 at 8:00am**

**General: \$200 // CHILDREN UNDER 12: \$100**





**ST. ANDREW PREPARATORY SCHOOL**  
FOUNDED IN 1921 BY THE METHODIST & UNITED CHURCHES  
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**WHERE WE IGNITE THE PASSION FOR LEARNING**

**NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION**  
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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



**HOPE UNITED CHURCH**

**Lenten Meditations**  
**THE ROAD TO THE CROSS:  
 MATTHEW'S ACCOUNT**

**MARCH 5, 12, 19 AND 26, 2023**

**5:30 P.M.**

 **LIVE**  **@HopeUnitedChurch**



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

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MARCH 20-23

**4** LAY LEADERS MODULE 1  
 ORIENTATION



**18** UCYPF NATIONAL  
 SPORTS DAY

**23** PRE-SYNOD  
 CONSULTATION

**25** UCYAAM  
 INGATHERING

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

## IMPACT CARIBBEAN II REGIONAL MISSIONS CONFERENCE

IN-PERSON & ONLINE

Saturday, March 18 2023 9 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**RICK  
 WARREN**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Award-winning Author - Purpose Driven Life &  
 Chair - Finishing The Task Coalition



Endorsed by: Errol Rattray Evangelistic Assn.

Partners/Speakers: JESUS FILM PROJECT  
 ARROWS INTERNET RADIO  
 YWAM/FRONTIER MISSIONS CARIBBEAN

Presentations From: Wycliffe Caribbean, 24:14 Ministries,  
 YWAM Tampa Bay, JaHOP, Prayer 2000, Seed Company, &  
 Dr. Donald & Andrea Stewart

TO REGISTER  
[HTTP://WWW.ONELAST  
 PUSHINITIATIVE.ORG/](http://www.onelastpushinitiative.org/)  
 USD10.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
 WHATSAPP 876 316 1057



VENUE  
 SWALLOWFIELD CHAPEL  
 7 SWALLOWFIELD ROAD  
 KINGSTON

OR ZOOM  
 Link given at registration

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



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

*You can also listen on demand on Anchor  
 FM: The United Church in Jamaica and the  
 Cayman Islands.*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**Mrs. Jennifer Martin**

**March 09**



**Rev. Oliver J. Daley**

**March 10**



**Rev. Egbert Harvey**

**March 11**

## 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**

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**YouTube:** UCJCI's Channel

**Instagram:** @UCJCI

**We appreciate your feedback.  
Please send your comments and input to  
[citc@ucjci.com](mailto:citc@ucjci.com)**