



# UCJCI UPDATE

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

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Congregational Disciples of Christ and Presbyterian

## A UCJCI MEDIA CENTRE?



12, Carlton Crescent, Kingston 10. Tel: 926-8734, email: synod@ucjci.com. Website: www.ucjci.com

OUR VISION: "Touching lives, Nurturing Disciples, Seeking Transformation through Christ."

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### PRAY FOR:



- Rev. Dr. Clinton Smith
- Rev. Astor Carlyle and his family.

### What about a United Church Media Centre?

It was the dream of the late great Rev. Earl Thames to have such a Centre, and there is thought that perhaps the time has come, and that it should be realized and named in his memory, as the "Earl Thames Media Centre." The dream included the establishment of our own Radio Station, Television Station and Newspaper.

**What are the possibilities?** Current thought is that it is all possible, and perhaps the time has come to make at least part of the dream a reality. In terms of cost and preparation time for its initiation, the 'easiest to initiate would be the Newspaper, and thoughts are to take steps to its initiation as soon as possible.

A quarterly Tabloid newspaper is being considered that would speak to the functions of the Church ; provide

a channel of communication as a public advocate speaking on behalf of the 'voiceless' and the disadvantaged on issues which are currently agitating the minds of the public such as **Crime and Violence**, 'Child Abuse', 'Domestic Violence', and 'Human Trafficking', among other social ills.

It would also be a channel for the Church and its members to meet its leaders in a special way, voice their opinions through a **Feedback page**, on issues congregants would like to be addressed, and also importantly learn more about the Word, sharing in perceptions being offered by various **columnists** drawn from our Union.

Such a newspaper would however require collective effort from each region. We will need **Regional Editorial Committees**, to be formed, who would assist in sourcing **articles** from their Region, as well as supportive **advertisements**, to help us cover publishing costs, and also to help in the **distribution** of the Newspaper. As soon as this is done and the teams are actively engaged however,

we would be ready to go...

Please let **'UPDATE'** know your thoughts, by writing or calling the **General Secretary**, and possibly volunteering your help. We believe that the aegis of this Newspaper is timely, given the increasing expectations if not demands of the Church to have a more **public voice** on issues that are affecting the majority of our people. We are called as a Church to **"touch lives"** in meaningful ways, and our Mission is to **bear faithful witness to God's love to all persons through life-giving worship and evangelism, social and educational engagement, personal empowerment, advocacy and faith formation toward a just and peaceful society and the ultimate experience of God's Kingdom"**

We must do so in as many ways as possible and our newspaper could be one of the ways we would be able to reach in a meaningful way, persons who need to be **counselled advised and nurtured** towards accessing the **healing** that they currently do not receive.

Once our newspaper is off the ground, then we could look at the other vehicles of communication that are part of **Rev. Thames' dream. DREAM WITH US!**



70:

**Rev. Tamara Smith-Coleman**  
July 14,

**Rev. Carlene Walford,**  
July 19



## CAMP NEWS

### THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **Remember to sign up** for Camps.
- The Camp forms are available at the Regional Offices.
- **Encourage persons to sign up** as Camp Leaders.

The camp dates are:

- Children's Camp** -  
July 8-15, 2017
- Junior Camp** -  
July 15 - 22, 2017
- Pacesetter Teens**  
(also known as Teens 1)  
July 22 - 29, 2017
- Discovery Teens**  
(also known as Teens 2)  
July 29 - Aug 5, 2017
- Youth Camp** -  
August 5 - 12, 2017
- Young Adults Conference** -  
August 17 - 20, 2017

## EMANCIPATION!

**Director of UWI Mona  
GeoInformatics to deliver  
2017 Churches  
Emancipation Lecture.**

**D**r. Parris Lyew-Ayee of The University of the West Indies, will deliver this year's Churches Emancipation Lecture. The Lecture takes place on **Sunday, July 30, 2017, at 4:00 pm at the Meadowbrook United Church, 2 Flemington Drive, in Kingston.** The topic will be: **'Youth and Technology : Societal Impact'**.



*Dr. Parris Lyew-Ayee*

An eminent Caribbean geologist and researcher, he has undertaken extensive geography-based analyses in areas including crime and security management initiatives; **road safety and traffic analyses; public health services; natural hazards and the environment; business development; business distribution** modelling; and software engineering. Among his recent publications is the highly rated book "**Natural Hazards Atlas of Jamaica**".

These are among the issues and impacts that Dr Lyew-Ayee is expected to explore as he delivers the **24<sup>th</sup> Renewal in the Churches Emancipation Lecture**. The event is organized each year by an **Emancipation Lecture Committee** with members drawn from a group of churches, including **Bethel Baptist Church, Boulevard Baptist Church, Hope United Church, Meadowbrook United Church, and Webster Memorial United Church, as well as the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI).**

## CWM AT FORTY!



The Council for World Mission (CWM) celebrates its **40th Anniversary Sunday July 16th;**

dubbed **'CWM Sunday'**, at the **St. Paul's United Church, Montego Bay.** Preacher, will be **Rev. Barbara Bridges,** CWM Board Member.

All who have benefitted from CWM programmes including 'TIM', 'Face to Face', 'A New Face', among others, and including CWM'S various training programmes are invited to attend! ■

## HELLSHIRE'S 25TH.

**H**ellshire United Church (HUC) in 2018 will be completing its **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ministry** in the Hellshire community and its environs. The celebrations have taken the form of year-long events commencing **June 2017.**

The major outreach event for this celebration is their **Health & Wellness Fair,** which is scheduled for **Saturday, July 22, 2017,** and the **George Kerr, OD 5K Run/ Walk/Roll** scheduled for **Tuesday, August 1, 2017, at 6:00 a.m.**

Partnering with Hellshire will enable them to provide assistance to the **Rio Cobre Juvenile Correctional Centre** in Spanish Town and citizens with special health and wellness needs.

**The George Kerr, OD 5K Run/Walk/Roll, is held in tribute to the late Olympian who was a member of HUC.**

The entrance fees for the **5K Run/Walk/ Roll** are: **Adults \$1,000.00; Children 12 years and under: \$500.00.**

Information on how to register can be seen at [www.georgekerr5k.com](http://www.georgekerr5k.com).

