



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

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

TEACHING STEWARDSHIP

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WE PRAY...



- **Mrs. Wihelmina Hewitt, who lost her father, Leonard Mahony. Thanksgiving Service will be held on Saturday September 9, at Davyton United Church at 11 am.**

Of all the Spiritual Disciplines of our Church, perhaps the one that challenges us most, is that of Stewardship; - in all its forms; Time, Talent and Treasure.

Stewardship, a concept best understood as the care and management of that which belongs to another presents in itself a challenge that many find difficult to accept. For what we often speak of as "ours," in reality belongs to another — God.

In the words of the Apostle Paul, "What do you have that you did not receive?"

Part of the difficulty it is thought has come about, because too often Stewardship has come to be associated merely with money, which many find difficult to part with; although surprisingly some congregations have found members more willing to give of their money rather than of their time and talents.

The reality is that no one can be a biblical steward who doesn't first understand



The Children's Offering Bag

the gospel — For the gospel of Jesus Christ, transforms more than a person's relationship to God; it also transforms a person's relationship to everything else.

One cannot also escape the reality the discipline of stewardship is intentional and does not arrive in us fully formed with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. **It must be cultivated.** For without discipline, the best plans to use our time, talent and treasure to the glory of God, may become overwhelmed by feelings of the moment, that negate the desired intent to give back.

That is why, the steps taken by the **North Eastern Regional Mission Council (NERMC)** to inculcate in our youth

the practice of tithing through the use of tithing bags is to be applauded. **The Children's Tithing or Offering bag** a special project of **Pastor Sadie Findlay** is a thrust to encourage our children to practice the discipline of tithing.

The Project was re-launched, in 2016, placing greater emphasis on encouraging children to give to God from their own resources (lunch money, monetary gifts, etc.)

The aim is to seek to identify advocates in congregations to assist with articulating the message to the children and also to identify a specific Sunday when congregations in NERMC would re-launch the bag.

To date the project has been launched in **twenty (20) congregations** including Webster Memorial, Port Maria, Harbour View, Boulevard, Meadowbrook, St. Paul's (Marverly), Free Hill, Seaton, Mount Regale, Greendale Charge, Buff Bay Charge, Hope Bay Charge.

As we approach the month of the **Harvest** it may be an appropriate time to look at initiating **the Children's Offering Bag in your congregation!**



70:

Mrs. Rose Wedderburn

August 31

Mrs. Karen Francis

September 2

ORDAINED AND LAY MINISTRY

Persons interested in the Ordained or Lay Pastoral Ministry of the United Church are invited to a meeting on Saturday, September 16, 2017, at Ridgemount United Church, Mandeville, at 9:30 a.m.

Interested persons are being invited to indicate their interest by sending an email to:

REV. HENLEY BERNARD,

at:

minform.ucjci@gmail.com

CAYMAN MOURNS THE LOSS OF JULENE BANKS...



Mrs. Banks was also instrumental in the formulation of **Mission 2000, Evangelism 2000, Family Enrichment Programmes and Mission and Evangelism Events in Council**. In more recent times she offered critical leadership and support in the area of mediation for which the Council is appreciative.

Julene was deeply committed to Christ and the Church and was not reticent to offer her voice, wisdom and courage to the ministry especially among young people.

Mrs. Banks was awarded the Certificate and Badge of Honour by the Cayman Islands Government.

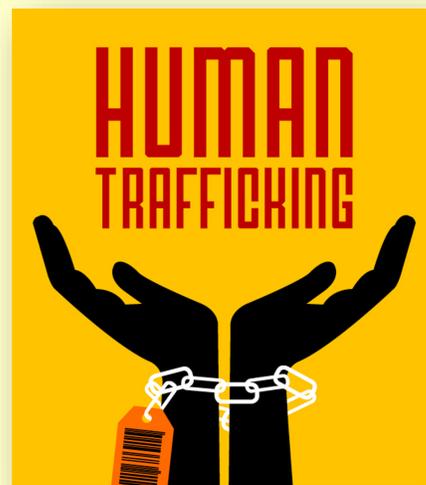
May her soul rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon her.

The Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council (CIRMC) of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands (UCJCI) is deeply saddened by the passing of Mrs. Julene Banks and expresses to Mr. Loxley Banks and the family sincere condolences and prayers.

Julene served the then Cayman Area Council (CAC) of the UCJCI as the Programme Associate (Council and Synod Programmes including the Prospect Youth Centre) from January 1999 to August 1999.

Prior to that, she was the Chair of the Mission, Witness and Service Committee of the CAC.

Julene faithfully represented the Cayman Area Council on the Mission, Witness and Service Committee of Synod.



The contribution of the United Church to the national dialogue on 'Human Trafficking' continues through the latest production of the documentary 'RESCUE', which was produced and directed by Rev. Kevin "Nana Moses" Calvert and which is currently being aired on TVJ. The UCJCI congratulates Rev. Calvert.