

# JAMAICA CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY

## REPORT to the 150<sup>th</sup> SYNOD

### OVERVIEW

The Jamaica Church Missionary Society (JCMS) will this year mark its 160<sup>th</sup> year as the missionary agency of the Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. During the year 2020, the Diocese also recognized the 150<sup>th</sup> year of the disestablishment of the Church in Jamaica. Notwithstanding the recognition of dates, the missionary work of the Church has and will always be the focus, as it was the response to the Great Commission that led to the establishment of the first Church over 2,000 years ago.

***Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28: 18-20],***

Times are changing rapidly, and if ever there was a time for the propagation of the Gospel, it's now. Changing times calls for changing methodologies, and we have long recognized that it cannot be business as usual. If we are to fulfil the Great Commission, we will have to develop new marketing techniques - we will have to look at new ways of doing the same work. While the product will remain the same, the packaging may have to change. The Society commends those Deaneries that have been employing innovative and novel methods of evangelism, and encourages us all to embrace the challenge.

All of the above was drafted for publication of the JCMS Annual Report for 2019, and all before March 10, 2020, the date of the outbreak of the Corona Virus (COVID -19) pandemic in Jamaica. But oh, how still relevant! As we experience the impact on our lives economically, socially and spiritually, like all other entities we have to pause, assess where we are, and move forward.

The Annual Report and the budget for 2020 were not presented as the Synod had to be aborted. The work however continued. Budget 2020 which was geared towards the development of mission projects, education and evangelism, had to be revised in order to facilitate effective operations, thereby resulting in the restrictions of some usual commitments.

It is significant that one of the positive outcomes of last year is the embracing of technology, coupled with the empowering of the laity, the embracing of training workshops, seminars, the growth in Bible Studies, and discussions on topical subjects. The provision therefore for the training of lay leadership, signals the Society's support for an empowered laity to take on the

leadership role in our missions. We encourage our members to make use of training opportunities where possible as we empower ourselves to take the Gospel to our world.

The closure of the church buildings cannot and will not kill our spiritual fervour, as the church is the people of God wherever they are to be found. These are indeed exciting times for the engagement of the spreading of the Gospel. It has been noted that persons, especially those on the periphery have been seeking and searching now more than ever. Opportunities abound, the field is ripe, the harvest is plenty. Unusual times - an unchanging God. Are we ready for such a time as this?

During the year the Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson retired as Suffragan Bishop of Kingston, and Chairman of the JCMS where he served in this capacity for ...years. The JCMS thanks him for his commitment and energy to this special ministry. The Society wishes Bishop Thompson all that's good in his new area of ministry.

### **MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE**

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson was appointed Chairman of the Society for the ninth consecutive year. The other members of the Committee are:

Most Rev. Dr. Howard Gregory	Archbishop
Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson	Suffragan Bishop, Kingston (Retired August 2020)
Rt. Rev. Leon Golding	Suffragan Bishop, Montego Bay
Ven. Winston Thomas	Archdeacon of Mandeville
Ven. Patrick Cunningham	Archdeacon of Kingston
Ven. Justin Nembhard	Archdeacon Montego Bay
Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty	Diocesan Secretary
Rev. Canon Abner Powell	Bishop's Nominee
Rev. Whitson Williams	Bishop's Nominee
Very Rev. Charles Manderson	Bishop's Nominee
Sister Molly Walton	Bishop's Nominee
Dr. Trevor Hope	Bishop's Nominee
Mr. Lincoln Tomlinson	Bishop's Nominee
Miss Sandra Berry	Bishop's Nominee
Rev. Delroy Coley	Representative, St. Catherine
Rev. Don T. Lewis	Representative, St. James
Miss Pamiel Scott	Representative, St. Mary
Rev. Sedley Gooden	Representative, Portland
Mr. Miguel Thomas	Representative, Kingston
Miss Edna Fisher	Representative, St. Thomas
Rev. Khan Honeyghan	Representative, St. Andrew
Rev. Opal Beharie	Representative, Westmoreland
Mr. Arvell Miller	Representative, St. Elizabeth
Rev. Judith Atkinson-Linton	Representative, St. Ann
Sister Alvarine Roberts	Representative, Clarendon
Mrs. Tiffany Grant-Smith	Representative, Hanover

Mrs. Jasmine Hewitt  
 Sister Agnes Hall  
 Sister Claudette Marshall

Representative, Trelawny  
 Representative, Manchester  
 General Secretary

Five (5) meetings were held during the year, and we thank the members for the energetic participation. The Deanery representatives create the link between the congregations and the JCMS and hence we are highly dependent on their attendance and participation. The JCMS again implore the Deanery Councils to brief prospective appointees as to the role and responsibilities of the position and seek the assurance of their willingness to serve. There was no representative for the Deanery of Portmore.

The following Table reflects attendance at meetings:

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>
<b>President:</b> Most Rev. Dr. Howard Gregory	3/5
<b>Vice Presidents:</b> Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson – <b>Chairman</b> <b>(Retired August 2020)</b> Rt. Rev Leon Golding Ven. Winston Thomas Ven. Justin Nembhard Ven. Patrick Cunningham	3/5 5/5 1/5 5/5 2/5
<b>Treasurer:</b> Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty	5/5
<b>Bishop's Nominees:</b> Rev. Canon Abner Powell Rev. Whitson Williams The Very Rev. Charles Manderson Sister Molly Walton Miss Sandra Berry Mr. Lincoln Tomlinson Dr. Trevor Hope	0/5 2/5 2/5 5/5 1/5 1/5 3/5
<b>Deanery Representatives:</b> <b>St. Catherine</b> - Rev. Delroy Coley <b>St. James</b> - Rev. Don T. Lewis <b>St. Mary</b> - Miss Pamiel Scott <b>Portland</b> - Rev. Sedley Gooden <b>Kingston</b> - Mr. Miguel Thomas <b>St. Thomas</b> - Miss Edna Fisher <b>St. Andrew</b> - Rev. Khan Honeyghan <b>Westmoreland</b> - Rev. Opal Beharie <b>St. Elizabeth</b> - Mr. Arvell Miller <b>St. Ann</b> - Rev. Judith Atkinson-Linton <b>Clarendon</b> - Sister Alvarine Roberts	0/5 5/5 4/5 3/5 3/5 3/5 4/5 5/5 0/5 4/5 4/5

<b>Hanover</b> -	Mrs. Tiffany Grant-Smith	0/5
<b>Manchester</b> -	Sister Agnes Hall	0/5
<b>Trelawny</b> -	Mrs. Jasmine Hewitt	0/5
<b>General Secretary:</b> Sister Claudette Marshall		5/5

## **DIOCESAN MISSIONS**

There are three (3) Diocesan Missions – Missions not directly attached to a Cure.

### **I. Discovery Bay**

The Discovery Bay Mission (DBM) continues to minister in the Old Folly community. The ministry has now been extended to include a Wednesday evening Bible School. The children have been turning out for this and hence the Diocesan Sunday School curriculum is being used. The JCMS has supported the programme with the donation of Bibles and copies of the Prayer Book for Children, publication of the Education and Youth Department. It is important to note that the ministry is being performed by committed lay leaders. The Mission continues to get oversight from the clergy of the Brown’s Town and Ocho Rios Cures. Services are held on Sunday evenings at 4:00 p.m. at the Roman Catholic Church in Discovery Bay. Weekly Bible studies are held in members’ homes.

### **II. Spot Valley**

The missionary activities in the Spot Valley community have been suspended. The Archdeacon of Montego Bay currently has direct oversight for the maintenance of the property.

### **III. Longville Park Mission**

The missionary work continues under the leadership of Sister Alvarine Roberts with most of the activities taking place at the Mission House. We continue to appeal for persons to assist in carrying out the mission. The lack of human resources have contributed to the suspension the activities of the Homework Center and the Parenting Programme. There is increased energy and focus on the construction of a Worship/Multi-purpose Center at the proposed Church site.

#### **A. Mission House, Olive Road**

Renovation work was completed at the Mission House during the year. External work with respect to the levelling of the grounds at the back of the premises was completed as well as the procurement and installation of a water tank. A major challenge has been that of getting the involvement of parents and other adults in the adult Sunday evening programmes and services.

### ***Lenten Programme***

The Intentional Discipleship Study was conducted by Sister Norma Thompson, retired Church Army officer. Seven (7) members of the community participated in the study. Once again, supported by Rev. Michael Elliott and members of the congregations within Portmore, there was a March of Witness on Palm Sunday through the community which culminated with an open-air service on the proposed Church Site.

### ***Sunday School***

The Sunday School continues, albeit with reduced numbers of nineteen (19) students [2018:24]. This however is the most consistent and active area of the LPM ministry. Apart from the Sunday evening services, during the year the children were in involved in :

- *Child Month Fun and Fellowship Day*: This was held on the farm of a member of St. Gabriel's Church
- *Diocesan Summer Music Camp*: Two (2) students participated in the camp held between July 8 -18, 2019 and have expressed their desire to return. One of the participants shared her experience on the 'Think on These Things' radio programme.
- *Vacation Bible School*: This was held at Sts. Michael and George Church, Freetown over the period July 22 – 26, under the theme '***Everyone Deserves to Hear about God: Tell Them***'. Twenty-seven (27) children were transported to the venue from Longville Park. A debt of gratitude is extended to Grace Kennedy Foods Limited for their contribution to the programme.
- *Youth Rally / Futsal Competition*: LPM participated in the Regional Youth Rally held in Mandeville and as defending champions entered a team in the Futsal Competition. They were the second place winners this year.
- *Carol Service & Sunday School Prize-giving*: The Service was held on December 29, 2019 on the proposed Church site at Juniper Road. The children shared their talent in the presentation of songs and dance. The message entitled, '*The True Meaning of Christmas*' was given by Master Ronald Allyson, a member of the Sunday School. Both parents and visitors commended the children on their presentations. The after Christmas Treat also included a movie compliment of Mr. Peter Brown, a member of the Anglican community. Support was also received from the Brotherhood of St. Andrew (BSA) and the Mothers' Union (MU) of St. Gabriel's Church, May Pen.

While the JCMS provides funding for the operations at LPM, special thanks must be expressed to Sister Alvarine 'Gem' Roberts who continues to fan the flame, the LPM Steering Committee and the BSA and MU members of St. Gabriel's Church. Special thanks also to the Portmore congregation who have been consistent in their support and the Society encourages other congregations to consider getting involved in this ministry.

***Lot 859 Juniper Road, Longville Park, Phase 111***

The LPM Steering Committee has been actively pursuing the construction of a multi-purpose facility for the site. Two meetings were held in this regard during the year – the latter held on October 27, 2019, was specially called with members of the Anglican community to garner their full commitment and support to the planning process and the growth of the ministry. With regards to the development of a building, there are currently two (2) options on the table:

- (1) A construction design from the Food for the Poor made from T1-11 plywood siding
- (2) A design utilizing two (2) forty-foot containers as the main framework.

The General Committee is currently in discussion regarding the decision to be taken.

As already indicated, an Open-air service was held on the site following the march of witnesses on Palm Sunday, as well as the Sunday School Carol Service and Prize-giving as part of the Christmas celebrations.

**INDEBTEDNESS OF MISSIONS**

Each year an allocation is made to assist Missions that are having serious financial challenges. Applications for support, outlining the challenges and subsequent inability to pay, must be supported by the respective Deanery and Regional Councils, who have the responsibility of investigating and recommending each case. There were no applications during 2019.

Total indebtedness of Missions at the end of 2019 stood at \$36.4M.

**MISSION ACTIVITIES**

The General Committee has been focusing on the evangelistic thrust being employed in the Deaneries. Each Deanery representative is responsible for reporting on the status of the churches in their Deanery, physically, financially and spiritually. With the continued emphasis on Intentional Discipleship, the Committee has been heartened by some of the initiatives been taken and the positive results being reported.

- **Westmoreland:** Sports evangelism, music ministry and special incentives for children have resulted in an increase in the number of children in attending and actively participating in church activities. Based on the demand for increasing seating for the children, the JCMS was able to procure through Food for the Poor additional chairs and tables for the missions in the Deanery.
- **Portmore:** The BSA initiated a Deanery football team which included young men from both the church and the community. Some of the young men now worship occasionally at the Church of the Holy Spirit (CHS). The Deanery football competition held in July 2019 was won by CHS.
- **St. Andrew:** The Sunday School of St. Jude’s, Stony Hill sent video-taped Christmas greetings to the Sunday Schools of four other Dioceses in the Province. This was reciprocated and was well received by the congregations on Christmas morning.

**CHURCH /SCHOOL SIGNS**

**INDICATE AREAS THAT REQUESTED SIGNS**

**ABILITY TO DO RENOVATIONS**

The Society continues to promote the installation of identification signs at our Churches, Missions, and Schools. The signs not only help to identify the presence of the Diocese in the community, but also provide information on the various activities. There has been a noticeably increase in the installation of signs at a number of our schools.

Production costs exclusive of General Consumption Tax are as follows:

One (1) two-sided Standard Sign - 48” x 34” is Forty Eight Thousand Dollars (\$48,000.00)

One (1) two-sided Standard Sign - 48” x40” is Fifty One Thousand Dollars (\$51,000.00)

Requests in writing with the preferred wording are to be submitted to the JCMS office along with a 50% deposit. The balance becomes due at the time of collection. ***The JCMS assists by underwriting 50% of the cost of one sign to Missions.***

**FINANCIAL REPORTS: Y/E DECEMBER 31, 2019 STATEMENT ABOUT REVISED BUDGET NO SYNOD -**

**Income & Expenditure Statement (Unaudited)**

**Summary Income Statement**

**JSM**

	<b>Actual 2020</b>	<b>Revised Budget 2020</b>	<b>Actual 2019</b>
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Investment Income	0.12		0.08
General Purposes	4.90	8.36	6.64
Miscellaneous			0.01

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>5.02</b>	<b>8.36</b>	<b>6.73</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Personnel Expenses	0.88	0.87	1.03
Ministry Expenses		0.25	0.32
Admin. Expenses	1.46	1.31	0.22
Grants	2.49	3.61	2.61
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>4.83</b>	<b>6.04</b>	<b>4.18</b>
<b>Net Income / (Loss)</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>2.32</b>	<b>2.55</b>

Total revenue of \$5.02 million, as was anticipated was approximately 60% less than the projections of \$8.36 million. The gradual but constant increase over the last five (5) years was dramatically reduced. The expenditure data however revealed a positive variance of \$1.21 million with a total expenditure of \$4.83 million versus the projected \$6.04 million. The savings is attributed mainly to the revised contributions to the Grant Outreach programmes and Development Projects, reduced by \$0.66 million and \$0.79 million respectively. Additionally there were no calls on the provision of \$0.25 million for Education and Evangelism. The Diocesan Secretary responded that this represented the charge for subsidiary accounts managed by the Diocese. The overall result, revenues covered expenditure leaving a residue of \$0.19 million.

## DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

The following Projects/Institutions were recipients of contributions during the year:

(\$)

<b>Projects / Institutions</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Longville Park Mission Operations	936,942	1,054,656
U.T.C.W.I Summer Programme		220,000
St. Monica's Children's Home	50,000	100,000
The Wortley Home for Girls		100,000
Clifton Boys' Home	250,000	250,000
Discovery Bay Mission (DBM)	100,000	140,000
Spot Valley Mission	10,872	112,071
St. Michael's & All Angels - ZOSO		8,128
St. Simon's Basic School		150,000
Bible Society of the West Indies		60,000
DBM – Prayer Books for Children		6,000
Scripture Gift Mission		41,779
St. Stephen's, Litchfield	340,000	
St. James, Grange	400,000	
St. John's, Auchtembeddie	400,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,487,814</b>	<b>2,242,634</b>

*Details of projected expenditure for 2020 are contained in Appendix 1.*

## GENERAL PURPOSES CONTRIBUTION *(Appendix 2)*

The budget of the JCMS is financed mainly by the contributions received from the Missionary



Services. Regrettably, some churches, notwithstanding the Canonical requirements refuse to participate in this ministry. The contributions of individual churches and missions are reflected in *Appendix 3*.

Total Deanery Contributions of \$6.56M fell short of budget of \$7.62M by \$1.06M. Notwithstanding, it is noted that there is an overall improvement in contributions. We particularly recognize those Missions and Chapels of Ease for the first time in a few years have contributed to the missionary endeavors viz, St. Thomas, Thornton, St. John’s Gayle, St. Thomas, Race Course and St. James, Gibraltar. Commendations are in order for the Deaneries of Kingston, Portmore, St. Mary and Portland of the Kingston Region, and St. James and Hanover of the Montego Bay Region, that surpassed the allotted targets. None of the Regions attained the targets for 2019.

**Deanery Contributions for 2020**

Top contributors per Deaneries are as follows:

**2020**

Deaneries	Contributions \$
St. James	949,187
Manchester	682,250
St. Andrew	598,180
St. Ann	422,604
St. Elizabeth	381,996

**2019**

Deaneries	Contributions \$
St. James	1,353,529
St. Andrew	1,023,343
Kingston	554,915
St. Elizabeth	469,482
St. Ann	454,495

**Church Contributions for 2020** (*Appendix 3*)

For the fifth consecutive year, Church of the Holy Trinity, Westgate, Montego Bay, is the top Church contributor. The five top contributors are as follows:

	\$
Church of the Holy Trinity, West Gate	851,229
St. James Parish Church, Montego Bay	400,000
St. Andrew Parish Church, Half Way Tree	319,450
St. George’s, Grand Cayman	234,315
Church of the Holy Spirit, Cumberland	197,750

We continue to implore the churches to make every effort to submit the contributions in a timely fashion. This will facilitate reconciliation where necessary, and the accurate allocation of

deposits. The JCMS continues to appeal for Attorneys to ensure that deposits for General Purposes are so indicated on the deposit slips, and asks that these be submitted as soon as possible after the transaction. In order to ensure timely credits to your respective accounts, copies of the deposit slips must be submitted to Church House offices by December 31.

The contributions from the respective Deaneries for 2019 and the proposed quotas for 2020 are reflected in *Appendix 2*

## **CONCLUSION**

The Catechism in the CPWI Book of Common Prayer states that the Church pursues its mission as: *“It prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace and love, and by its own transformation into the likeness of Christ, proclaims His transforming presence.”*

In these unsettling times it is important that we remain focused on these primary objectives since ultimately whatever we do, we need to remain a praying, mission focused community responding to God’s transforming presence in the community. On behalf of the JCMS I wish to say thanks to every member of the Society who despite personal challenges responded by partnering with us in our common mission and service. Finally the Society expresses deep appreciation and thanks to Miss Claudette Marshall, now in her third year as General Secretary, who with the assistance of Miss Korrine Fairweather continues to advance the work of the Society.

**Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson**  
**Chairman**

**Sis. Claudette Marshall**  
**General Secretary**