

ABSTRACT

Facing the Implications of Church Unity in Jamaica.

Calvin Newton Matthews

Ecumenism is a viable route to church unity in Jamaica. This research was done with the view of ascertaining whether or not the ecumenical process is significantly focused to bring about greater church unity. The level of support the movement receives from the clergy and laity is vital for any progress toward unity to be effective.

In this thesis a historical, theological method of research is used. This was achieved through examining ecumenism in its historical developmental context, and the reflection on theological issues which are pertinent to the movement. This was achieved through discussions, interviews and the collection of data on two measurement scales instruments.

The analysis of the information from both instruments shows that ecumenism needs to be properly defined. Both the laity and the clergy need to be more involved in the movement.

If ecumenism is going to have any great effect on church unity, a change of attitude is required. This change will require leadership taking difficult but necessary decisions to deepen church unity.

Keywords: Calvin Newton Matthews; Ecumenism, the route to church unity.