

JAMAICAN EVANGELISM - Sept. 07 - January 08

JANUARY TRIP

Mandeville



Dan and Joanna Smith, Sharon and myself met in Montego Bay on January 10th, and then Donovan Bent met us on the 11th and took us to Mandeville where we spent the first week. Dan preached on Sunday and Ed conducted classes Monday through Thursday evenings on the subject of "A Christian and His Money", giving special attention to tithing and local churches needing to support their own preachers as they are able. The classes were well received. The last evening of the class, the church in Mandeville surprised Sharon and me with plaques thanking us for our service the past 22 years. We certainly love and appreciate those dear Christians.



The Mandeville church is growing and has adjusted to Donovan Bent as their preacher this past year. The basic school is also doing very well. The government has put into law some new requirements for basic schools to help improve the facilities and teacher qualifications, but this will also make it difficult for some of the smaller schools to comply.

Donovan Bent Family



Support for New Preacher

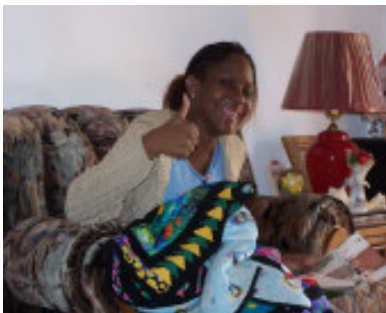


The first Sunday afternoon we were on the island we attended a Missionary Rally at the the Richmond church, near Mandeville. We visited with many preachers on the island that were in attendance, and also met with Randall Craig, who preaches at Macca Tree, and his wife Naomi. He is a good man, respected by all, and has a fine family. His support from another source was terminated

because of lack of funds, so Jamaica Evangelism has decided to step out in faith and support Brother Craig with \$1000 per month, as long as our funds continue to come in. Randall (Ronnie) also preaches at May Pen once a month and is Dean of Students for Jamaica Bible Seminary. Naomi is a school teacher. Ronnie and Naomi have 2 children, Nicole 19 years old, and Nicholas, 15 years old. If you would like to help with monthly support, please designate on your check for Ronnie Craig.

Mocho

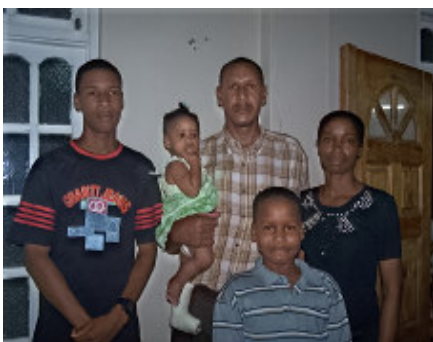
We visited the Mocho church with Mervin Ward. We had previously sent additional funds for work on the Sunday School addition specifically to help with building the bathrooms. The work is progressing as funds and workers are available so it will be awhile before it is finished. As always we were delighted with the musical abilities of Mervin's family. His daughter Sabrina is a professional singer in Kingston. While we were at the Mandeville church Sabrina, her mother Vena and Mervin serenaded us. It brought tears to Joanna and Sharon's eyes. Keino, who has sickle cell anemia, has done better this year with the help of her dad, who is a wonderful nurse. Vena's aunt recently passed away and the daughter who lives in the states asked them to live in the aunt's house indefinitely, which is next door to the Ward's home. What a blessing for them - it is a nice home and so much better for their health and Keino's specifically. We also presented Keino with a quilt that Sherri Knowlton from Coos Bay had sewn for her with messages from the ladies in Coos Bay. She was thrilled and encouraged!



encouraged!

Mineral Hts.

As in Mandeville, Dan preached on Sunday morning and Ed taught classes about tithing Sunday through Thursday evenings. The classes were well-received, though small, since many will not come out at night due to increasing violence in the area. Roger plans to continue using the material for teaching. Sharon and Joanna had crafts for the Friday night youth meeting, which was quite a large group and also taught Sunday School. The church here continues to grow. The basic school has about 180 students - that's a lot of 3-5 year olds! We also visited



several homes which have been rebuilt with hurricane repair funds that we had sent and those people are very appreciative of all the help that has been given.

Immediate Needs

Mervin Ward does not have a vehicle at present. He sold his small car because it was giving him a lot of trouble. The high interest rates (17% to 25%) in Jamaica make their payments high. A decent used vehicle which has good passenger space is at least \$16,000 on up. Mervin rents a car on Sundays to travel to Mocho. Donovan has a van that is very nice looking, but has given him a lot of engine trouble, particularly because the timing belt broke and did a lot of damage. After putting quite a bit of money into it, we just recently helped with finances to put a new engine in for about \$1100. Unfortunately, he is making car payments of \$350 per month. Donovan owes about \$10,000 on this vehicle. Roger also has a 2nd van that he purchased so Sharon can get back and forth to Mandeville for required classes in order to operate the basic school and his interest rate is about 18%. If these vehicles could be paid off, much interest money could be saved. Some goals that we have are: ***1) Pay off the men's vehicles 2) Increase our support base 3) Help churches to mature so they can assist in supporting their preachers, and 4) Help support more preachers in small or newer churches.*** If you would like to help with any of these needs, or know of others who would be interested in supporting a mission, our Jamaican evangelists are hard workers and worthy of support.