



Lighthouse Missionary Outreach

Sixteen years of ministry to the Caribbean

David & Debbie Goodrum - Directors



Summer 2007 Newsletter

Gearing Up With New Gear

Well, it's almost time to set sail again and we are very thankful for the many financial gifts and supplies that have recently come to us to help us on our way back to the Caribbean. We always seem to be at the 'end of the limb' before the blessings arrive, but the Lord has never let us down, and neither have His people!!

Our plans are to traverse the Bahamas and the islands of the Turks & Caicos, as well as make a brief visit to Haiti, during our four month trip beginning early October. We will be doing our Children's Crusades as well as holding pastoral training conferences and delivering supplies.



Planned route of our next journey



Faith's new sail

Co-Mission's CEO Gary Glover with board member and our friend, Tommy Todd



David with new outboard motor, compass, GPS, and many other necessary supplies.



We're much better prepared for the stormy conditions that are usually encountered in the Caribbean during the last half of hurricane season and the arrival of winter, especially because of a new mainsail and the many nau-

A Bagful of Little

'Missionettes'



"Bears on a blanket"

We'll have plenty of "stowaways" on board this time - dozens of tiny bears - handmade by the children who attended this year's Vacation Bible School at Holly Ridge (NC) Church of God. As their craft project, they cut out bear patterns from brightly colored cloth printed with

the name 'Jesus', sewed two together, and then stuffed them with cotton material to make precious gifts that we hope to deliver to poor children in Haiti. The most touching moment for us, though, was attending their closing ceremony when the children brought their



'prayer bears' to the front of the church and laid them on special blankets made last year, also as gifts for the needy. Some of these little 'missionettes' paused to say a small prayer or give their bears a kiss, and then carefully placed them, ensuring that each blanket had an equal number. What a privilege for us to carry Debbie explains how important these 'gift bears' will be to Haiti.

Another Great Conference!

We were once again able to attend the Gold Coast Mission Conference conducted by Cooper City (FL) Church of God. Always a blessing to fellowship with others of 'kindred spirit' and receive instruction for sharpening our 'tools'. Any church which sponsors such an event benefits in many special ways as well as providing a great service to world missions. Thank you to the visionary members of Cooper City's mission board!! For more about how to have a conference at your church contact Edmarie Edwards through their church office: 954-680-9191.



Our son Justin with Dan Isbel of Honduras



One of many great class sessions



Debbie and me sharing about our ministry

Praying With the Missionaries

CO-Mission International, Inc. is a non-profit Christian Organization whose focus is on sponsoring native missionaries in unreached areas of the world (www.comission.com). This Spring they sponsored a 'Prayer Event' unlike any we have attended before. Dozens participated in the all-day affair during which missionaries and pastors throughout the critical 10/40 Window [the least reached but most populous part of the world] were contacted by phone, shared through loud speakers their needs, and then prayed along with us in concert from halfway around the world! Some of the pastors



Gary & Barbara Glover, founders



even gathered their 'flocks' to sing and worship with us. What a wonderful experience for all of us who participated! Thank you, CO-Mission !!



SPECIAL THANKS

to the Pine Valley Church of God of Wilmington, NC for buying new suits for David [his first new ones in many years] as well as shoes, shirts, and ties. And for a Sirius radio system which will provide life-saving weather info at sea!!



Also, thanks to the members of First Pentecostal Holiness Church [also of Wilmington] for once again providing an abundance of clothing and toys as cargo for our upcoming trip. Both churches contributed boxes of literature and teaching supplies as well. Lord, bless these churches, Grace Harbor Church and the several families who support us monthly, and the many others who have faithfully assisted our ministry, helping us to help others in need!!!

Check out our website: www.sailingservant.org We will update the site during our mission trip with photos and uplifting stories. Also on the site are back issues of our newsletters, devotional articles on discipleship from a missionary's perspective, and many exciting 'travelogs' from previous journeys. Contact us about sermon CD's and other materials, and to schedule speaking engagements.

Out of our Comfort Zones

During the first leg of our last mission trip we once again encountered a small refugee boat, this time with three Cubans aboard [last time there were seventeen, including a one year old baby!] Both boats were caught in the swift currents of the Yucatan Channel and would've been lost in the remote waters of the western Gulf of Mexico, never to be found. But God placed them in our path instead, giving us the privilege of rescuing so many lives, and of leading some of them to the Lord as well!

However, the only way the Lord could put us where He needed us, in the right place at the right time, was to make us uncomfortable for a little while first. As we sailed away from the last of the Florida Keys and out into the Gulf of Mexico at the start of our journey, the usually robust trade winds died out completely. In fact, it was so calm, the water looked like glass.

We had a young couple traveling with us on their first mission trip together, to see what the sailing missionary life was like (whether it was something they, too, would like to do). But now, after three days of hot, steamy conditions and literally going nowhere, they were beginning to question whether we should continue or just turn back. Their idea was for them to take a plane to Guatemala, instead, with the hope of meeting up with us there.

We did have enough fuel to return to Florida but not enough to go on with the journey under motor power. But, for Debbie and I to lose even more travel time on a trip already shortened by a hurricane and other delays just didn't seem a good idea for us.

So, we prayerfully discussed the matter with them, saying, "We've learned from our experiences to put your life into God's hands and be patient! The Lord knows what He's doing. It's just that with Him a 'day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as a day'. We sometimes say to Him, 'Lord - it seems like it's taking forever'. The Lord's answer, "You have no idea what forever is. Just be patient! I'm working on something you know nothing about yet, but will when everything is ready."

The couple finally agreed that since God had brought us this far, we should keep following His lead. Within twenty minutes of that decision the wind began to pick up and by evening we were running along at fair speed. A few days later we came upon that small boat, adrift between Cuba and Mexico, with those three desperate souls aboard. We had traveled ten days. The miracle was, however, that they, too, had been at sea exactly ten days!! For God to bring our two tiny boats together in the midst of that great sea would be like two people standing at opposite sides of a large room tossing pennies into the air and having them land, one on the other, somewhere in the middle. Praise the Lord!!

What if we had thrown up our hands and quit, saying, 'This is not what we were expecting - it's too hard - it's not fun anymore', or any of the many reasons believers fail to finish what God gives them to do? In our case we would have missed the chance to save lives! Who knows the many 'losses' suffered because some of us just don't like having to get out of our comfort zones.
...David A. Goodrum



Mission Projects for You or Your Church



Our dear friend Myra has an exciting vision to build a feeding center and school for her poverty stricken area of Guatemala. Any financial help or a visit by church groups would be greatly appreciated. See her website at: www.wmotw.com or call us about this faithful ministry to the needy.



Richard Briggs, our sailing friend in Guatemala has unselfishly given of himself to promote education and health to the Mayan village of Cayo Quamato. He is raising funds to build a much needed clinic. We ministered there and feel this is a very worthy project! Please contact him through his website: www.lavidafeliz.com or inquire with us.

Bryan Buchanan, known locally as the 'Jungle Medic', with wife Riechelle, tends to the medical needs of the Kek'chi Mayan indians, as well as Spanish Guatemalans living in the remote hills and river valleys. Their work is never-ending and any assistance they receive goes directly to aiding the poorest and most desperate. Visit them through their website: www.junglemedicmissions.org



Contact us for more mission ideas!!

Can You Help? We have been serving as full time missionaries to the Caribbean and Central America for fifteen years, providing training for pastors and youth workers, reaching children through Children's Crusades, and ministering to boating families from around the world. We use our boat to carry medical supplies, clothing, and Bibles to needy nations. Ours is a faith supported ministry relying on offerings and personal gifts. Thank you for any help you can give us towards our expenses as we sail onward for Jesus!!
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We sold our home a couple of years ago so we could buy this tiny



18ft trailer to use when ministering to churches ashore after our mission trips. It is actually a little too small so we are praying that the Lord will provide one that is lightweight in the 24ft to 30ft range. Perhaps you have one or know of one that is not being used, and would consider making a donation or sell it at a sacrificial price for the Lord's work. Please contact us at 910-200-8065 with information. *Thanks!!*