



Lighthouse Missionary Outreach

Twenty years serving the Caribbean & Central America

David & Debbie Goodrum - Directors



Our sailboat, Faith

Summer 2010 Newsletter



Dave says, "Boat work is a handful!!!"

"Vessels of Honor"

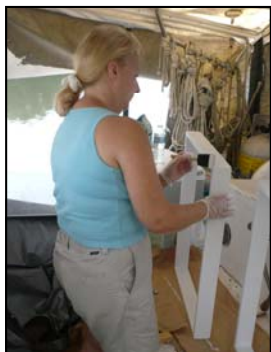
We have spent the past several months doing extensive repairs on our mission boat *Faith*. The extreme heat and rigorous conditions of our last mission trip to the Turks & Caicos Islands [near Haiti], as well as record cold this past winter [here at our home port of Surf City, NC] has caused our wood & fiberglass trimaran sailboat to suffer considerable damage to deck and seams. Repairing the dry-rot and stress fractures affecting much of the

deck, and a whole lot else, has been all the more challenging with the high heat and humidity of this summer. But with the Lord's help and the expressions of kindness from the many friends of our ministry, we are beginning to see the 'light at the end of the tunnel' [well...maybe more like a 'flickering match']



Debbie busily working on the hatches

Working daily [usually ten to twelve hours] on *Faith* has made me wonder at times, "What if Christians worked even half that hard on their own faith?" After all, scripture tells us to "work out (our) own salvation with fear and trembling" (Phil 2:12) and that we are to be "building up ourselves on our most holy faith" (Jude 1:20) If we fail to take care of our faith [to "neglect" it] scripture tells us the consequences are severe (Hebrews 2:3) Study the passage! This is not about 'rejecting' the Gospel, but rather failing to attend to our faith much like a sailor who doesn't take care of his boat!



Real artistic talent on display

Maybe the one passage that has been on my mind the most this summer is the one in which Paul distinguishes some of us as "vessels of honor" while he calls others "vessels of dishonor" [study Rom 9:20-23] There has been considerable debate over all the implications of this passage, but let me just simply ask: Which would you rather be? How would you like to be remembered: as the 'Good Ship so-n-so' or the 'old derelict such-n-such'? [obviously I'm looking at this through a sailor's eyes]



A bothersome window leak turned out to require replacing a whole section of wall

Faith has been a "good ship", faithfully doing good things: carried hundreds of Bibles and thousands of items of aid to needy nations, sailed many thousands of miles in ministry, and has been used in saving the lives of twenty-one people [see photos below] If a 'vessel' of just wood and fiberglass could do that, just think what your 'vessel' of flesh and blood could do if it has the Lord at the helm instead of you!

Though you may think of yourself as nothing more than an "earthen vessel", the Apostle Paul says that, in you, is a "treasure" which is the "glorious gospel of Christ"!! [2Cor 4:4,7] Don't sell yourself short! Raise your sails in grand fashion and go forth 'honorably', bearing the precious cargo of the Good News of Jesus Christ, the hope of the whole world!!



Keep us in prayer as we try to complete the work as quickly as possible. We are anxious to return to our mission field soon, but must be patient in completing these long overdue repairs which will make *Faith* safer and more prepared for the all the Kingdom work ahead.

Saved By 'Faith'



These photos are of some of the twenty Cuban refugees rescued from certain death at sea during two of our mission trips to Central America. At least four of them also came to know Jesus as their personal savior! We thank the Lord for a vessel hardy enough to

do so much good. Visit our website [www.SailingServant.org] for stories and photos.





Heather completed her training at Charleston Southern College (SC), a Christian institution, with plans to be an elementary teacher.

'Congrats' To Our 'Grads'

Finally, our last two in college have completed their studies and are now ready to leave their mark on the world. We praise them for what they have accomplished, holding them in our prayers as they follow the Lord's leading for their lives. Believers are counting on this very special generation to 'carry the torch' forward in the cause for Christ!!

Michael proved his resilience and determination by graduating from UNC Chapel Hill despite battling a brain tumor two years ago.



Early will I seek Thee (Psa 63:1)

When the psalmist David wrote these words he explained that his desire was the result of a soul that was 'thirsty' and a flesh that was 'longing' for God. And so he sought after the Lord 'early' before doing any other thing. If we would just do the same every day, how different each of those days could be!!



David giving the opening prayer as sea fog rolls in



Sharing 'missionary stories' with curious youth on the beach

I had the opportunity to be with two local pastors and their members during an Easter sunrise service on the seashore. Though praying with the sea as a backdrop while a new day breaks is routine for us as sailing missionaries, I enjoyed watching the wonder and awe of those present, how the time and setting added so much to their prayer experience. Jesus said that they which "hunger and thirst after righteousness...shall be filled" (Mat 5:6) But I would add to that 'don't wait too late to eat!' Getting the strength and direction you need from the Lord at the start of your day will go far in helping you to make the most of that day, avoiding the pitfalls Satan may place in your path!



David also leading music during a monthly men's prayer breakfast with men from Chapel By The Bay (Surf City, NC) - a great time for fellowship!

Personal Evangelism Seminar



My new personal evangelism seminar is now available on our website [www.SailingServant.org] The eight pages of illustrated notes are ideal for individual or group study. The main objective is preparing you to share your faith with family and friends. Please feel free to print and share these around. Also, I would be happy to conduct a week-night or weekend seminar in your church, sharing from my thirty-seven years of experience in soul winning. Please contact me at 910-200-8065 .

"Welcome Home, Walter"



Grandbaby number six planned his arrival just right for us to be on furlough from the mission field and for Debbie to be with daughter Marissa and son-in-law Eric, in Texas, on the 'happy day'! At 8lbs 10oz, this big guy is already a 'bundle of blessings'. Deb was able to be with the family a full month to also help with two and half year old granddaughter Ella. These special moments with family are rare for us because of our travels as missionaries and we thank

the Lord for every one of them, and for watching over our loved ones.

Special thanks to Rick Wiles and the faithful supporters of TruNews for their donation of a new outboard motor for our dinghy, something we have needed for several years now! I consider their timely, powerful radio and internet ministry to be the best, most dependable source for world news as it relates to Biblical prophecy. I strongly encourage you to visit their website daily [www.trunews.com] to stay informed of the rapid changes taking place around us. You can listen online to their nightly broadcasts!!



For David to be a part of **VBS** this summer at Chapel By The Bay gave him a chance to apply some of the many skits and 'characters' we use in our Children's Crusades as we travel through the Caribbean and Central America. No doubt that children everywhere respond so well to the Gospel presented at their level and in a way that brings smiles to their faces.



Lend A Hand?

We have been serving the Caribbean and Central America as full-time missionaries for the past twenty years: training pastors and teachers, reaching young people through Children's Crusades, ministering to boating families from around the world, and using our sailboat to carry Bibles, literature, and medical /relief supplies to needy nations. We rely on offerings and personal gifts to support our work. Thank you for any help you can give us and, most of all, thank you for your prayers!! - David & Debbie Goodrum

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