



Outreach Jamaica

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OUTREACH JAMAICA
CONTACT
INFORMATION:

FORWARDING AGENTS

Jim and Barb Gale
P.O. Box 2473
Mills, Wyoming 82644
jgale34659@aol.com
307-265-2433

MISSIONARIES

Jacques and Bev Blackwell
P.O. Box 339
Ocho Rios
Jamaica, West Indies
jacquesblackwell@yahoo.com
876-429-4059

www.outreachjamaica.org

*If you would like to send a
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*All donations are
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UPDATE

“ They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the Lord to care for them.”

Psalm 112:7 NLT

Hello friends and family! We hope this finds everyone doing well, in spite of the challenges that face us in these trying times! What a blessed assurance to know that in the constantly changing world we live in, our God never changes...He remains faithful and true always!

Jacques and I returned to Jamaica September 12. We were blessed to be able to spend a few weeks with our newest family member, Kairo Jacques Blackwell who arrived on August 2. Although he had a difficult birth, both he and Sierra are doing well. He was sick with COVID at 5 weeks old, but has recovered and is growing and changing so quickly and we could not be more in love with him.

Jacques and I celebrated our 35th wedding anniversary September 19th. Time sure flies when you're having fun! We spent a quiet day, with lunch at a little seaside spot reminiscing and looking forward to whatever God has in store for our future.

Our foster girls, Shelice and Telice, are back in school and looking forward to their mid-term break next week. Both are already studying and prepping for their exit exams. Telice will graduate in June and Shelice finish her associates program. She has started the application process for University.

Baby “K” and his mama are still living with us. He turned 5 months old on October 1 and is generally a happy, easy going little guy. Mama is still looking for work, and I'm sure would appreciate prayers for that.

We have been having heavy rains here over the past 6 weeks. We have been blessed in Jamaica in that we have not had a direct hit from a hurricane this year, but IAN did dump feet of rain in some parts of Jamaica as it passed us on the way to Cuba and Florida. Our country's breadbasket in the southwestern part of the island has been devastated first by drought, and now by heavy rains that have wiped out much of the agricultural sector. This is causing shortages in produce and meat and causing prices to absolutely skyrocket to prices we've never seen. We still have almost 2 months left in hurricane season and are praying that we are spared any more damaging rains or storms. Unfortunately we have had to cancel some of our planned evangelistic events, and one Sunday morning service due to the rains. Lightning has also knocked out our refrigerator and washing machine, and we're in the process of seeing if they can be repaired or if they're beyond repair.

IN OTHER NEWS....



Plans are well under way for our annual Youth Retreat for the rural area churches that will be held November 11-13. We are making plans for at least 60 young people to attend. Our theme this year will be "AWAKE" taken from Ephesians 5. Thanks to so many of you who have helped sponsor it, we have already been able to secure the venue and finalize the speakers, teachers and menu.

The Ministry of Health is warning of another COVID wave expected in November, there are multiple cases of monkeypox across the island, and because of the heavy rains, they are warning about increased cases of all of the endemic mosquito-born diseases. Some parents have expressed concerns about allowing their children to attend retreat, so please pray with us that the situation will remain stable and that fear will not prevent the youth from being able to attend.

Jacques continues to preach in Ocho Rios... at this point, at least once a month. He will continue until the first of the year at which time a decision will need to be made as to the extent of our role in the future of the church there.

Thank you all so much for your prayers for our family and the ministry here! We are so blessed and grateful for each of you!

PRAISE AND PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAISES:

- Safe travel home for Jacques and me
- Safe arrival of Kairo, and his recovery from COVID
- Our water storage tank is FULL and running over from all of the rain!
- Funding for the upcoming Youth Retreat

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Bev's mom's health
- Upcoming Youth Retreat- for the Holy Spirit to prepare the hearts of those attending
- Health situation across the island
- Ministry in Ocho Rios- for guidance and direction on the best way forward for that congregation
- Recovery for those affected by the heavy rains and flooding, loss of crops and livestock
- Our personal and ministry support situation

Please take time to visit our website at www.outreachjamaica.org