



Dear Friends,

February 2021

2021 has been an exciting year so far, and our Lord has blessed beyond what we could have ever imagined. January 9th, I left my family here in Bequia and flew to the island of St Croix. We surveyed the boat on that Monday. Everything on the boat checked out well and was valued at \$225,000. The owner turned down two offers equal and above that amount, and on January 21st my home church bought the boat for \$130,000. Three days later, my Brother-in-law, Zackary Blalock, who is an active member of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Murphy, headed out on a 67-hour trip from St. Croix to St. Vincent. It was an exhausting trip for the two of us. We had some rough seas and a trawling line caught in the props in the middle of the night, but despite these few set backs we arrived safely in St. Vincent. Zack flew back home a few days later, but I remained on the boat for 12 days of quarantine. Finally, 30 days after leaving the family, I made it back home to Bequia with the boat.



The Dayspring Gospel Boat Ministry: The boat is now here in Bequia. We are waiting on official documentation from the coast guard, and are currently working on a few minor repairs and maintenance projects. Looking ahead, there are a few larger and more expensive projects that we will need to do on the boat within the next 6 months. The main project will be to have the boat hauled out and the bottom scraped and painted. We also need to add some solar panels and new batteries on the boat, because we will have the boat on a mooring or at anchor most of the time. Several have asked about supporting the boat ministry in addition to our personal support. We estimate that the monthly cost will be around \$1,000; that includes fuel expenses and insurance on the boat. This could change depending on fuel cost, the amount of trips that we take each week, and any repairs and maintenance issues we may encounter. Support can be sent to MWBM marked for the boat ministry and will be used solely for the boat ministry.

Bible Baptist Church: The church plant in Bequia continues to progress. As we left the island, the government put more restrictions on gatherings and we were limited to 10 people. Because of this, we moved to online services while I was gone. Once I got back, I went by the police station and was given permission to have 10 inside the church and 10 outside on a covered porch. We've had 4 visitors the last two weeks and have been full capacity for most of the services. This past Sunday, we were able to help 7 families with some basic food needs. Seven out of the nine families that come are without jobs right now. We hope to be able to continue to help them and others as the Lord provides, but ultimately we are praying that God would provide jobs for each of them.

Gospel Tent Meetings: Because of the restrictions on mass gatherings and amplified sound we are unable to hold any tent meetings at this time. We are praying that when the restrictions are lifted we can begin planning tent meetings on Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, and Union.

Family: The kids are doing well in school. They have enjoyed getting to be on the boat as I've worked on it the last few weeks. McKenzie is still struggling with some health issues but is doing much better. In November we put in our applications for residency. The last time we applied we were given only one year, but this time we were approved for 2 years! Thankfully, the Lord had already provided the nearly \$4,000 needed for this! God is good!!

I want to say thank you to each person that prayed and gave to help with the purchase of the Gospel Boat and the expenses of the trip. I would also like to thank those that faithfully support our family in the ministry. 16 years ago this month, I quit my job and followed the Lord's direction to work full time in the camp ministry. After that God sent us here to Bequia. I've failed Him so much, but looking back there's not been one time that He has ever failed me or failed to provide what we've needed. 1 Thessalonians 5:24 **Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.**

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