

Serving with World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions

Stanley and Marvina Cline

"Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them. . ." Ruth 2:9

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March 10, 2006

Dear Friends and Co-Laborers,

Since we wrote to you in December much has taken place. What we projected as future is now accomplished fact. We are indeed back on island soil – Grenada, West Indies, this time. What a difference from Majuro! Both are tropical, but there are many differences. Here we can get locally-grown grapefruit, oranges, mangos, papayas, lemons, bananas, and some vegetables. However, what is shipped in is quite expensive. Gasoline is about \$11.00 a gallon (about \$4.10 U.S.) Two liters of ice cream is \$11.66 U.S. We like ice cream, but not that much! The currency and coinage here bears the likeness of Queen Elizabeth. The soils, instead of being coral, are volcanic in nature, and much more conducive to supporting agriculture. Because of the mountainous terrain there is some danger of falling out of your garden and landing on your neighbor's roof – well, maybe a slight exaggeration.

Politically we have had no problems and apparently many still remember with gratefulness the intervention of the U.S. in the 80's to stifle the communist takeover. However, in many communities there are headquarters for the N.N.P. -- New Nationalist Party or the Communist Party. Some weeks ago a van with a loud speaker came through our area advocating a turn to communism. We also saw a van in our area with a large banner -- "PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO." It "kinda" shakes you!

In early January the container arrived in Majuro. Pastor Lang seemed very pleased with what was sent and said, "This will save us much, much money in the future." He also said the van arrived in good condition and is being regularly used. They are planning on adding classroom space this year. We have already ordered 7th grade supplies for their use this fall as they open another grade.

Our accommodations here are comfortable and nice. It is the apartment the Mathenas had built under the church for their dwelling. There is much to be done and "just living" takes longer than in the States. Of course, this is true on many mission fields. For example, to go about 16-17 miles into St. George's (the capitol) for groceries and supplies may be a full day's trip. The driving takes an hour each way! We can buy basic things in Gouyave, and we buy produce and eggs at the Saturday market.

The church has two services on Sunday and sword drills and Prayer Meeting on Wednesday night. We were surprised at how well the kids did on the sword drills! On Monday nights there is a "Joyful Noise" band practice and then Quiet Time Club. Friday nights there are a variety of youth meetings. On Saturday afternoons there are reading classes and visitation in the village. There is much potential, but the work will be very slow as there are obstacles to be overcome. These obstacles are determined by the unwillingness of the people to make a permanent commitment, their attitude toward allowing their children to come, and cultural mores which are antagonistic to godly living.

Sometimes we become impatient to see more visible results, but we must remember that producing a harvest takes time. What springs up rapidly often withers the same way.

Thank you for your continued standing with us these days and years!

In the service of the King,
Stanley and Marvina Cline

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