



"Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
whom he hath redeemed from the  
hand of the enemy." Ps. 107:2

#### MATHENA'S



Robert & Pat

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# Thank you for praying!

October/November/December 2023

Dear Co-Laborers in Christ,

**"When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee,  
Thy face, LORD, will I seek." Psalm 27:8**

The holiday season was a rush from beginning to end. This year, no matter how hard we tried, we struggled until the last minute trying to get everything finished. Early in the summer, we chose "Wisemen Still Seek Jesus" as our Christmas theme. We began our shopping, cleaning, and decorating in late October. The shopping was like a scavenger hunt because very little was available. Our plans kept changing, but we finally settled on coloring books and crayons for the children, puzzle books for the teens, fancy boxes of popcorn for the adults, and ingredients to make pumpkin bread for the shut-ins and elderly in our community.

Then the church got a good cleaning including the attic. New curtains were hung, Christmas memory verses were made, and the decorating began. When this was accomplished, the children came for a night of fellowship and helped decorate the Christmas tree. Pre-school closed on December 8<sup>th</sup> with a program for the parents and gifts for the students. It was a fun time, and the children enjoyed new lunch boxes filled with treats and small toys. During break, we baked pumpkin bread, packed the food baskets, and fliers with candy canes were made ready for delivery. We also bagged up all the gifts for Christmas morning which included treat bags for the kids.

While trying to accomplish all of this, we had some added stress. Robert began having problems so tests were run. The first test found a mass and the second test said it was probably cancer. Finally, he had a CT scan which revealed that the mass was not cancerous and should shrink in time. While helping to clean and organize the church attic, Pat had a severe allergic reaction to a bug bite and the dust. It took her several weeks to recover from the trauma. With this added confusion, Carrie's chronic Gerd worsened. We were quite a trio for the holidays.

Through it all, God blessed us with good attendance for our Christmas Eve and Christmas morning services. Now we are looking forward to what the New Year will bring as we seek Him and serve Him here in Grenada.

In Christ,

*The Mathena's*

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Grenada, West Indies  
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