

The Robinsons' Herald

July – October 2000

October 27, 2000

Greetings from lush and beautiful Carriacou! This is probably the most comfortable and beautiful time of the year for the Southern Caribbean except for the mosquito's and hurricane threats. We are still hoping for much more rain before the hurricane and rainy season officially ends on November 31. Some of the ponds on Carriacou are still down considerably, and some people's cisterns are not as full as they would like for this time of the year. Yet, we have been getting enough showers to keep things fairly green. **Please pray for the Lord to provide the needed rain over the next six weeks or so.**

I apologize for the length of this report, which is about twice the size of our regular ones. We mailed out the last hard copy mailing of the *Robinsons' Herald* right before we returned to Carriacou back in April of this year. I have sent out a few email updates from Carriacou since then, but I am composing this letter to fill in the gaps on what has been happening since then.

Our copier is still down!

First, we are still limited to sending out email versions of our reports due to our copier being out of order. Some of the local schools and the telephone company do allow people to make copies, but they don't like to do it, especially for large runs. Perhaps this is one reason they charge (as I recall) about 38 cents (US\$) just for one side of each copy. **Please pray for me to get the time and to have insight as I seek to diagnose and repair our copier.**

Our website is up and running!

While still in the US during the month of March I spoke with a man in Cross Lanes, West Virginia, who had a mutual interest in computers and technology. I mentioned to him that I had a desire to develop a website. He told me that he and his brother happened to have their own Internet Service Provider company. He also told me that I could get some web space from them to host my site.

A couple of month after we returned to Carriacou, in June, I took the plunge and purchased my own Internet domain (for about \$35.00). I then began to develop the site on days that I did not feel like doing much of anything else. Some three months later I have finally launched the site and it is up and running. I am also hoping that others will contribute appropriate articles that I can supply in some of the various sections that have been set aside for this very reason. The site is "**Last Chance Ministries**" (LCM), and it is located at www.lastchanceministries.com.

The site is rather extensive (over 100) pages) and is still growing. LCM has loads of photos of our work and Carriacou in general. Just click on the "**Windward Bible Church**" link at the top of the home-page to read more detailed information about our work. Click on "**About Carriacou, Grenada**" to read more about Carriacou and take a photo tour! In the Windward Bible Church section you can click on "**Prayer Letters**" to see our most recent

and back issues of the Robinson's Herald. Click on "**Prayer Requests**" to keep abreast of our prayer needs. If you forget the name of our domain just go to any of the popular search engines such as Yahoo, Mamma, NBCi, Excite, etc., and search for "Last Chance Ministries, "Windward Bible Church," or "Walter Robinson II" to find us.

We are very thankful to the Lord and the people who are graciously providing the web space for LCM. I am also indebted to a good friend, Andrew Berger, who graciously provided Microsoft's excellent FrontPage 98 Internet development and maintenance software package.

It is my hope that many of our supporters and friends will regularly visit our site to keep better updated on what the Lord is doing through our work here on Carriacou. It is also my hope and prayer that we will be able to reach people around the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ, and other important biblical teachings and perspectives in a time of increasing darkness. **Please pray for LCM's development and for it to be used to reach the lost and those seeking Biblical truth.**

Hurricane season is still here!

Those who have been getting our email updates already know that we had a couple of days when we thought we were going to have to face a hurricane named Joyce. Our Father was merciful though, and she was downgraded to a tropical storm before she passed through our region. All she brought us was some much needed rain, some brief gusty winds, and appreciated cooler weather. Hurricane season does last through the end of November, and late last year one hurricane, Lenny, caused considerable damage on parts of Carriacou from freaky rough seas. **Please continue to pray for our continued safety from the hurricanes.**

Transportation Ministry

Of the individuals and family that attend the services of WBC, most live over one mile from our meeting place and have to be transported to and from services. As of October 2000, we have people attending services from all of the following villages or communities on Carriacou:

- Dover
- Limlair
- Belvedere
- Belair
- Bogles
- Experiment
- Hillsborough
- Beau Se Jour
- Brunswick
- Six Roads
- Harvey Vale
- Mount Pleasant

Many of the above areas are depicted in an "**Interactive Map**" on LCM on a page entitled "**Carriacou Points of Interest.**"

Carriacou is about 3 miles by 7 miles and it is very hilly and mountainous. We have many small children and some adults

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above 65 that attend our services. Most do not have vehicles, thus transporting our congregation is indeed a ministry in itself.

The latter part of September we were having a lot of trouble with our Vista. It sounded and drove as though the suspension was about to fall out from under it. To make matters worse our hired transport had numerous breakdowns and 'oversleeping' episodes that really hindered our attendance. Thus, I could not take the Vista out of service to work on it at the time because we desperately needed to use it.

As most of you know, we had been searching for another vehicle since arriving on Carriacou, but could find nothing suitable. What was affordable was in such poor shape that they were not worth the money. Those in good shape were way out of our price range.

Thankfully, on October 2 we were able to purchase a 1991 Toyota HiAce minibus. It is designed to carry eighteen passengers plus the driver. It has a 2 liter engine that was replaced last year that looks clean and dry, sounds good, has good power, and does not use nor leak oil. Even though the body has 316,000 miles on it, it and the interior looks pretty good. There are a few rather minor mechanical items that demand some attention, some wiring quirks to correct, and a few small areas of under-body rust that need to be cut out and replaced with new metal as soon as possible. We also need to have the upholstery covered with clear vinyl as soon as possible to protect it. Overall it seems to be in good shape. I already have most of the parts I need to replace, *i.e.*, axle bearings and seals and hand-brake cables. I already know that having the rust repaired and the upholstery covered will cost about \$400.00 (US\$).

We had a full 18 passenger load the first Sunday we used the bus! Linda had been running that same route with the Vista, which is only designed to carry seven *including* the driver. Moreover, **the very Sunday we put the Toyota in service our regular bus driver informed us that he was going to stop running for us the beginning of November!** You can see photos of both the *newer* bus and the Vista by going to the "**Transportation Ministry**" page in the "**Windward Bible Church**" section of LCM.

In our previous *Robinsons' Herald* I related how I had already replaced a slew of the Vista's parts shortly after we returned to Carriacou. The middle of October week I replaced one front half shaft and both McPherson strut assemblies. I then took it out to test drive it and the brakes suddenly went out! A rear brake line busted! Thankfully, the front brakes held some when I pumped them and I was able to nurse it home.

I am trusting that the Lord will supply funds to completely restore the Vista. Even with the bus, it is still needed desperately. Restoration is not a hobby venture option, but a real necessity due to the inherent cost of replacing the vehicle in the country of Grenada.

With the recent purchase of the Toyota 'bus' I hope to be able to take the Vista out of service and restore it as funds are provided to do so. I estimate that we can do the complete job for about \$4000.00 to 5,000.00 (US\$). Simply put, to replace it we would have to pay some 75% of a vehicle's value and shipping cost to get it into the country if it is one to four years olds. Over four years old the duties are 152%! If you do the math you can see that the estimated cost of restoration for the four-wheel-drive Vista is practical and economical for this type of multipurpose

vehicle. For sample replacement costs you can click on **Sample Costs** on the **Other Special Information** page in the **About Carriacou, Grenada** section of LCM.

I believe restoration is the only option we have if we plan to continue to use the Vista in our ministry. Optionally, we could sell it and look for another bus.

New Location for Windward Bible Church!

We have already mentioned this exciting news in a brief email update that was sent out on July 7, 2000. Most who have been following our work know that we have been looking for a meeting place in the Windward area since Windward Bible Church first began back in 1992. Praise the Lord, we finalized a lease on July 5 and began renovations a week or so later! It is located dead smack in the center of Windward at a prime location! (You may see photos of Windward and the new facilities on LCM's website by going to the "**Photo Gallery**" page in the **Windward Bible Church** section.)

In addition to more space and a more 'user-friendly' layout, there are other advantages to this new location. One is the natural air-conditioning. About five feet behind the rear wall (directly behind the pulpit) the Caribbean laps graciously at the shore, and the trade-winds provide a nice comfortable and cool breeze that keeps the building fairly comfortable most of the time. The previous location did not have this benefit.

Also, with the Caribbean being literally at our back door, we have a ready made baptistry that requires no filling, draining, and cleaning. This place also has a plywood substrata under the galvanized roofing material. This is both much cooler when the sun is high in the sky, and also much quieter when the rain comes down heavily during the rainy season (runs from June through November).

The size and layout of our new facilities also enabled us to set up one room to be used as a Sunday School room for the youth and special occasions. We have also set up a small office. Both were needed very much. You may see photos of the new facilities on the LCM website by going to the "**Current Meeting Place**" page in the Photo Gallery area of **Windward Bible Church** section.

One of our men, one lady, and some children in our congregation helped us from time to time to remove old floor tiles as we prepare to paint the floor.

We moved in and had our first service on August 2, 2000. I have erected walls to enclose the office and Sunday School room. I have also been installing wiring to meet our needs. We will need to paint the facility inside and out, as well have the wiring inspected and approved by a government representative in order to get our own power meter. We have also had a phone installed, which was truly needed.

Since moving in we have had numerous visitors of both adults and children to walk in from the village of Windward. Our highest attendance to date has been 37! Most of the feedback I have received so far from the community is positive.

I am already planning a series of special meetings to hold just as soon as we get the building painted and I get the wiring finished. Some services will utilize tapes from our growing video library about end time themes, creationism verses

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evolution, and various cults. We showed a few tapes about three years ago in our previous location and had very good responses with some attendance's in the high nineties.

I am also planning to begin holding separate Bible studies for the men and teenage boys as soon as I get the work done on our building and vehicles. Since I suffered the stroke last year I have learned to not take on too much at the same time. My doctors also told me to limit my stress, thus, I do what has to be done as I can.

Our being blessed with the use of this new location is nothing short of a miracle and a great spiritual victory! This is the first non-Catholic church to be established in Windward since Carriacou was first settled hundreds of years ago!

God is Good, and He is Sovereign! **Please pray as we endeavor to finish the renovations and reach out to the people of Windward with the Gospel of Jesus Christ that offers salvation by grace through faith—*apart from works.***

More Needs to be Done

With recent purchase of the bus, and the purchase of materials for the renovations at the new location we have basically depleted the funds we had on hand. We still need to purchase the materials to paint the building inside and out and also paint the floor. We also need to have rust and old paint removed from the security bars on all windows and have them repainted with the proper kind of paint. **Please pray with us as we endeavor to finish the renovations on the building at the new location in Windward that we believe will glorify God.**

The People of Windward Bible Church

We are excited and thankful for the additional vehicle and the building in the new location in Windward. However, our ministry is not directed to buildings and vehicles—they are only a means of ministry. Our ministry is to people.

We have had a few children and teens to make professions of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ since we returned to Carriacou this past April. A number of teens continue to show genuine spiritual interests, growth, and devotion.

Linda has been getting the older children and teens together on Thursdays and it is attended well. She is also holding Friday Bible studies for the ladies and teenage girls. **Please remember to pray for our children and teens to be kept pure and to grow in their walk with Jesus Christ. Pray that they will also be bold to stand for the Lord in school and among their lost friends.**

There are also a couple of new young ladies that have begun attending WBC. One is a believer from Belvedere. The other is not a believer *yet*, who is from Harvey Vale. Both are in their early twenties.

The one that is not yet a believer is suffering from some type of malady that causes her to sometimes experience **Visitors From Florida Minister to Us and the Folks of WBC**

The first week of October we were blessed by a visit of some folks from Florida. They are Bill and Ruth Stoll, who were accompanied by their son Will, who is in his late twenties and lives

dizziness, weakness, or even faint. She recently took a trip to Barbados to undergo several diagnostic procedures including a MRI and Cat-Scan. Thankfully, nothing wrong was revealed, but the cause of her problems remains unknown. **Please remember to pray for this young lady's health and especially for her to see the need for Jesus Christ.**

The brief update I sent out in July also including information about a young man that finally acknowledged his sin before the church and sought forgiveness. The folks of WBC lovingly forgave him and have been reaching out to him. But, he has been very iffy in attending services and has also lost his full time job. As of the composing of this prayer letter I have not seen him for three weeks and have not been able to contact him. He has been seen riding buses, and some say that they believe he has been working in another area of Carriacou. But he has not even phoned to let us know where he is and how he is doing. **Please pray for this young man to learn to put the Lord first in his life.**

There are also several professed new believers that have yet to follow the Lord in believer's baptism. Please pray that all will come to see their need to obey the word of God in taking the first step in becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ. I believe that taking this step is paramount for the continued spiritual growth and maturity. **Please pray for the many teens and a few adults to follow the Lord in believers baptism.**

Increased Cost for Living and Working on Carriacou

The increasing fuel cost world wide seems to have generally affected those in the West Indies to a greater degree than those who live in the USA. For example, our gasoline now costs about \$3.00 (US\$) per gallon, which is an increase of some 35% over last year! The increased fuel cost has also caused our electric bill to increase some 20%. The merchants and business are also having to adjust to the increased fuel cost and the cost of many consumables has increased accordingly. For online sample prices you can visit the **About Carriacou, Grenada** section of LCM's website and click on "**Other Specific Information**" About Carriacou which supplies a table of "**Sample Prices.**"

Before we returned to Carriacou this past April we thought we had a monthly support level that was about 90% of what we actually needed. We now know that we have promised support this is about 80% of what is needed. We also have medical bills incurred when Linda had major surgery the middle of last year.

You can read more about our support needs on LCM at the **Support for the Robinsons** area on the **Current Prayer Request** page in the Windward Bible Church section. **Please pray as we trust the lord to meet our support needs.**

in New York. They had learned of us being on Carriacou by meeting Tabitha while she was at college last year. Bills late father had purchased some property on Carriacou way back in the sixties. They had not seen the property, did not know exactly where it was, but wanted to get it surveyed and see it for themselves.

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The Lord graciously helped us to get it surveyed before the family arrived on Carriacou. The Stolls helped us by bringing some items that we desperately needed (including a microwave oven). They also ministered to our folks by preaching, teaching, playing the piano, and singing for us in the Sunday morning and evening services. They were a refreshing blessing for us in many ways and we were thankful for their visit.

The Robinsons' Health and Doings

I (Walter) have doing okay all things considered. I still suffer with the chronic prostatitis and transient discomfort in lower part of my anatomy from time to time, but the Lord is gracious and has kept the discomfort tolerable. I also am still taking antibiotics to manage the prostate problem as my stateside urologist has instructed me to do before I left the US back in April.

Along with work on the building, the vehicles, and the website, I have also made some much needed shelves for the basement.

Linda and Jeshua have been doing fine health wise. They are also well into the throws of homeschool, while taking some time out to do some house cleaning and organizing before our guests arrived earlier in October. I also had my share to do, and frankly, it was a real chore (pun intended). Yet, they have managed a few occasional trips to the beach for a little R&R.

The third week of October was the first time I went to the beach with them since we returned to Carriacou. The sunset was beautiful and I took several pictures—some I hope to post on LCM. Afterwards Linda talked me into taking the Vista over a portion of Carriacou that we had never seen before. It was called Morne Jaloux (morn jah' loo) and it was very, very bumpy (Linda apologized) and difficult to navigate at times, but exciting with breathtaking views in two or three places.

Spiritual Opposition

The material blessings, increased attendance, and the spiritual growth of some of our flock are indicative of God's grace and provision. But, we have also had experiences that remind us how desperately and constantly we need Gods protection.

Over the last couple of months we have had a some

unbelievable experiences that have left us literally shaken at the times they occurred. I will not go into any more detail in this letter, but I am asking for our friends to bear down in prayer for our protection as we continue to labor here. Also pray that we will not be hindered by fear as we continue to minister on the field to which we have been called.

Thanks and Salutations

The Lord has blessed us with a loving and faithful family of friends and supporters. I trust that this letter will encourage them, and also challenge them to pray more faithfully and regularly for us as we labor here on their behalf.

Thank-you for touching our lives with yours through your financial support and special gifts. Thanks ahead of time for the increased prayer support that I hope will began as soon as this letter is sent and received BY children of God all around the world. God is sovereign and all powerful, *and his children ain't bad either!*

Still looking up for Him as your coworkers,

Walter Robinson II

Please send all support to:

Holy Mount Baptist
Missions Helps
P.O. Box 4177
Kingsport, Tennessee 37662
Tel. 423-247-1212

Our address for correspondences:

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