

The Robert Smith Family serving joyfully on the island of **Barbados**, West Indies

November/December 2019

October was our church anniversary month. I had been praying that God would help our people as they invite others to church during the month. So often our people will continually invite others, but have no

visitors. It can be discouraging for them. To the Lord's glory, we had visitors each week, and our attendance was doubled on our anniversary Sunday. It was a wonderfully exciting day! Buddy witnessed to several children in the junior church. Though I do not think that we had any adults who responded for salvation, we are following up on the visitors from that day.

On November 5th, we travelled to the States for Rhoda to have surgery for a large gallstone, a mass of scar tissue, and a three inch hernia. The surgery went well. The surgeon removed the gallbladder and the scar tissue and repaired the hernia. Now, Rhoda is healing slowly. We give thanks to the Lord for watching over her throughout this time.

On the day we left for the States, the Barbados Immigration Department called to see if I am still interested in obtaining an immigrant status visa. My application for an immigrant visa was denied two years ago, and I appealed the decision more than a year ago. Their phone call was the first response to my appeal. There may be hope yet. I would ask for your prayers that I could obtain an immigrant status visa. This visa would mean that we would no longer have to renew a work permit every three years.

We enjoyed a Thanksgiving celebration time with both of our families. We thank God for the godly heritage that our parents have passed down to us. It is worth more than any amount of money or earthly goods! This was also the first Thanksgiving in many, many years that I and my three siblings were together. I am looking forward to the day that we will all be with Christ never to be separated again!

After returning to Barbados on December 5th, we were privileged to have Pastor Dwayne and Mrs. Jenelle Daniels of Guyana speak at our church while they honeymooned here. Mrs. Daniels was a faithful part of our church for about a year while she worked here in Barbados as a single lady. They are a wonderful example of godly, young people. They were saved and trained in the Victory Baptist Church of Providence, Guyana, pastored by Missionary Noel Shrivnauth. If you are looking for a national pastor and wife to support, I can highly recommend them. In the sixteen months that Jenelle attended our church, she brought a steady stream of Hindu and Muslim visitors from her workplace to hear the gospel. One can contact Pastor Daniels by phone at +592-613-2774 and Bro. Shrivnauth at singwenoel@gmail.com. For over twenty years, Bro. Shrivnauth has had a marvelously fruitful ministry in Guyana. He is a wonderful investment for the Lord's work.

Each year we have a one-hour Christmas Day service in the morning. The people really dress up, and they enjoy singing of the Lord and His coming in Bethlehem. It is always a delightful time together. Buddy and Becca played a piano/violin duet, and it was a real blessing. https://youtu.be/nJ40wspJ_YU Our regular Wednesday evening service on Christmas Day was also well-attended. The whole day felt blessed of the Lord. (My daughter said it was like having two Sundays in one week! :))

My soulwinning partner Jawaine Rice and I met two young men, steam-cleaning upholstered furniture. One young man named John took time to listen, and soon he prayed to trust Christ. He lives at the other end of the island, but God put him in our path that day! Thank God for divine appointments!

On Christmas Eve, Becca and I had the wonderful privilege of leading two sisters Trishann and Angel to Christ. Trishann has five children, and Angel is an older teenager. Pray for Trishann and Angel to grow and become faithful in church.

In 2019, our church recorded 56 saved and two baptized. Of the 56, 37 were people to whom I witnessed. We want so many more to be saved and grow this new year. As we go door to door each week, it is common for us not to be given an opportunity to witness. In the last year and a half, I have spent much time fasting that God would come and do a great work here. Pray that God would raise up Bajan labourers for His work. Pray that God would raise up spiritual replacements for Buddy and Becca when they go to Bible college in the fall. Buddy and Becca are soulwinners, Sunday School teachers, Jr. Church workers, church cleaners, idea fountains for church programs, providers of our church piano music, and many other things as well. We and the church people are very happy with what God is doing in our children's lives.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support. May the Lord bless you abundantly in this new year! Robert, Rhoda, Buddy, and Becca





Pastor and Mrs. Daniels of Guyana