



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

January 2021

On the first day of the year we had our Kick Off the Year banquet. Our theme this year is that the Word of God is *Sweeter Than Honey*. Becca designed the banner, and Buddy wrote the music and words for our chorus. In each church service this year, we will read Psalms 19:7-14 as our verses for the year, and then we sing the chorus. We had a wonderful time together that night as we made decisions to make His Word to be sweeter than honey to us.

On January 2nd, all churches were closed again as the covid cases have begun climbing again. The total cases here quadrupled this month. Towards the end of the month though I began knocking doors again. People seemed to accept my presence at their door (masked and distanced of course) without a problem. I was able to knock 160 doors and lead a young teen-aged fellow to Christ.

We began having zoom services for church in the meantime. I have never been quite this technologically advanced and so this has been a learning experience for me. I prepare a power point presentation for each service so that the words to the songs, the scriptures, prayer requests, and even my sermon can be easily read and followed. I thank the Lord for the recorded piano accompaniment music that we used in years past as it helps us with our singing now. I had never used power point software before, and so it seemingly takes me hours to prepare for a service now. At least we get to see other members and be "together" for a time each service.

Two faithful men (Fred Cook and Daniel Bowen) in our church have moved their membership to the church of Hebrews 12:22, 23. They had been faithful for many years in our church, and we will miss them greatly. I thank the Lord for the encouragement that they were to us. Pray for their families.

At the beginning of February we were placed back in lockdown again as the covid cases continue to escalate. The lockdown seems like it will continue throughout the month. Pray for us that we can be released back into the wild again soon. I would like to get back to door knocking again.

I would like to thank our home church, First Baptist Church of Hammond, for their great generosity and care for Pastor Ronnie Roberts as they helped with the funeral expenses of his son Aaron. May the Lord bless you all abundantly for your kindness!

Thank you for constant prayers and support of the Lord's work here. We are so grateful for your sacrifice and faithfulness. Thank you for your prayers for Buddy and Becca. They are doing well in school and ministry. We are very proud of them. Sometimes the temperature difference between here and there is 70 or 80 degrees! :)). Please keep them in your prayers.

Pray that God will bring a great revival here. We want to see great things happen for Christ's sake. Blessings on you all!

Sincerely, *Robert and Rhoda Smith*

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