

The Robinsons' Herald

Email version for April Thru August 2005

Greetings from 'Next to Heaven' in Carriacou, Grenada, West Indies!

Greetings from the 'Hurricane Alley!' I had begun preparing this quarterly *Robinsons' Herald* the latter part of June so that I could send it out early in July. However, much has happened that has kept us busy elsewhere. I have sent out a few quick notes back in July, but I hope to bring all up to date fully with this issue. I apologize up front for the length of this five-page report.

We are now well into the 'rainy season,' which is also a record breaking 'hurricane season' this year. The good news is that the ponds are all overflowing and the island is green and lush all over. We have had some good rainy periods since late in May and early in June that resulted in most people having a good supply of water in their cisterns.

Praise! As you may recall from the "*Robinson's Herald*" for the first quarter of this year, we had been working with a pastor from Mississippi that had been led to bring material and laborers to Grenada to build some homes for those suffering in the wake of Hurricane Ivan. Pastor Coy Rice had contacted us through my website the latter part of 2004 after Ivan came through. He and the team from Gautier Baptist Church arrived at the end of March and were able to accomplish much in the four or five days the team was able to work. They built three or four homes (14' X16') and even rebuilt the upper and main floor for Providence Bible Church, all on the mainland of Grenada. The folks there were truly blessed and thankful for the gracious help and encouragement. Brother Coy had truly wanted to build a couple of homes here on Carriacou, but they did not have the time. Yet, I was thrilled and thankful for all they accomplished on the mainland where the help was most needed. *Thanks for you prayers!*

Hurricane Emily Does Much Damage to Carriacou

On July 13, 2005, we were blasted by our second major hurricane in less than one year! The eye of Hurricane Emily passed right over us. We lost power about two A.M., Wednesday morning, and the wind was much worse than I had anticipated. We had been expecting a tropical storm, not a hurricane, until a little after midnight on Wednesday. Some of our windows were broken, and we lost some 14 or 15 pieces of our roofing material. The water poured into half of the top floor and seeped into the basement where we all were hunkered down to ride out the storm. We were thankful to have part of the basement kept dry so that we all were also able to keep dry. However, the inadequacies of our roof became much more apparent when this storm hit.

The damage was much worse on Carriacou than when Ivan hit last year. Thankfully, the mainland fared much better this time. Yet, the storm did much damage to our home and many

other homes and other buildings here – including the meeting place for Windward Bible Church (WBC), which lost *all* of its new galvanized roofing that had been installed the later part of last year after being damaged by Ivan. (More about WBC church later.)

The day after Emily ravaged us, we took the remaining sheets of roofing that remained on our veranda (*i.e.*, porch) to replace about fifteen over our living area that were blown off during the storm. We still have some persistent small leaks, but the house is staying mostly dry right now. Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do for our meeting place right now. I will say more about this further down and later in our prayer requests.

With us during the storm we had a team of fourteen adults and teenagers from Charleston, West Virginia, and a Bob Jones University (BJU) student that was here doing his internship! The Lord was gracious and merciful in protecting us all.

The team was from Cross Lanes Bible Church (CLBC), our home church, in Charleston, West Virginia. All in the group handled the storm well and were a tremendous help to us through it and afterwards. They helped with cleaning up the smelly mess and replacing the missing sheets of our roofing.

They were originally here to conduct a Vacation Bible School (VBS) and take over our regular services from July 9 through the 16th. One to two weeks before the team arrived, we were told that the Dover Government Primary School was going to be undergoing renovations, thus, it was necessary to procure the Hillsborough Community Centre with the Lord's gracious help. Because of Hurricane Emily, they were only able to hold one day of VBS at the community center. That day went very well with nearly seventy children showing up! That is remarkable because we had never held VBS there before. In any case, the one day VBS was well received.

The BJU intern student was Matt Templeton. He arrived Saturday, May 28th, and remained with us until Wednesday, August 3rd. He did his internship with us in preparation to enter his senior year this coming fall. He preached regularly, led each song service, worked with the teens and children, taught Sunday School, helped with visitation and witnessing, helped with the bus ministry, and much more! He was a blessing and encouragement to us the entire time – including during and after the storm. He also helped much with cleanup and roof repairs. The folks of Windward Bible Church and we miss him very much already.

As mentioned earlier, the roof on our home desperately needs the covering replaced, which was supposed to be done several months back. However, from what little feedback I have received, either the contractor or the shipper that is supposed to be getting the materials has been telling the owner that the materials has not been available. Yet, most around us have found materials and have already had their roofs repaired or replace. Even may new homes have been built from the ground up and those contractors have told me that the materials have been available on the mainland of Grenada, as well as in St. Vincent and Trinidad, which are alternate locations used for sourcing materials.

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Regardless, it now looks like we will have ride the remainder of this hurricane season out with a weak roof. Our hands are tied, unless we foot the estimated \$7,000.00 to \$10,000.00 bill – or move. The estimates for the latter part of 2004 were set at \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00, but one contractor volunteered to tell us the estimate would likely be higher now because of additional damage that has occurred since. Because the roof is in such bad shape, we have not done any painting anywhere in the house – including in Jeshua's room.

This hurricane season has already broken many records. As I recall, the earliest named storm on record, the earliest major hurricane on record, and the most named storms this early in the season are just some of the records that have been shattered already. This morning I watched the weather channel and discovered that they and others are predicting 18 – 21 named storms and 4 – 6 major hurricanes this year! There have already been eight named storms and two major hurricanes – which are usually the average for the entire season! However, we have not even reached the peak of the hurricane season this year, which usually occurs in mid September. *Please pray for our personal safety and the protection of our personal effects through the hurricane season and until the landlord gets our roof fixed.*

News about Windward Bible Church

As I mentioned in my last prayer letter, the latter part of last year, one of our supporting churches sent a special gift to start a vehicle fund. I am thrilled to report that in May someone sent another special gift to bring the total in the bus fund to \$10,000.00 (US\$)! After praying and looking high and low, Linda and I traveled to the mainland of Grenada early in June to check out and ultimately purchase a used bus that we hope will be reliable, safe, and trouble free for sometime. It is a 1999 Toyota HiAce 18 passenger bus. The body and interior look great, and it drives and rides very well. I did spend some days correcting some wiring problems after we got it. However, many here have complemented us and told us that they believe we got a very good deal on it. *We praise and thank God for this much needed answer to prayer.*

Amazingly, our old bus and the newer one both developed carburetor problems while the team from Cross Lanes was here! To make a long story short, both carburetors had clogged jets from fuel deposits. No one had put anything in our fuel tanks, as both have locked access panels to the fuel fillers. I took them apart and cleaned them out, and both are running good now. I shared that because I believe the Enemy himself did that to hinder us along with everything else that made it necessary to cut the VBS short. Yet, I want to report that the Enemy did not get the victory here. I will say more about this further down.

As explained already, our meeting place in the Village of Windward suffered much damage from Hurricane Emily. It lost all of its new galvanized roofing and over half of our sanctuary

has several inches of standing salt water in it. We will not be able to hold services there again until a new roof is installed. As a result, we have been holding services in the basement of our home since the first Sunday after the hurricane. We put forty chairs out in our open area and thirty were present!

Before this last storm, we have been recovering from some problems that had been going on in our congregation that had been hindering us. The problem had been unbeknownst to us until the last year or so. The problem has been corrected, and since then I have seen many that we had not seen for quite some time!

Two of our older ladies still have physical problems that hinder them from attending services regularly. Two of them have severe arthritis that seems to be getting worse, but another has recently returned from the states after undergoing eye surgery. We are glad to have her back, and she was in our services a few times since the latter part of June. An older gentleman is still in New York where he has been working for over a year. He is working and saving to purchase tools and getting more experience so that he can reopen his auto repair business when he returns to Carriacou sometime in the future. We also have a teenager now attending a college in Texas. *Please remember to pray for the health of Sisters Scott, Stafford, and Williams, and also Brothers Clement and Alexander.*

In the past, we had hesitated to reach out to those in other communities because we could barely carry those that had been coming in the one 18-passenger bus we had then. Our car has been out of commission since about November of last year. Even when running, it carried only four adult passengers and maybe two small children. Since we have gotten the additional bus, we have been able to carry many more.

I hope to install all the new parts and put the car back together this month. I then hope to sell it and use what we get out of it to restore our old bus. Alternatively, we could sell both our car and the old bus and use the proceeds to purchase another bus to replace the older one. *Please pray for me to have the wisdom, stamina, and strength to complete the repairs of our car, and for us to get a good price for it when we sell it. Also, praise the Lord with us for the new bus for which we are very thankful.*

Our new bus has been used much since we got it – especially during the week of July 26th through the 29th. As I shared above, the VBS at the Hillsborough Community Center was cut short due to Hurricane Emily. However, after the team safely returned to the States, the Lord led and helped WBC to hold a four day VBS at our home here in Meldrum!

The team from Cross Lanes left many materials that they were unable to use due to the interruption by the storm. Matt Templeton then devised a new plan, and working with Linda, and with my oversight and approval, they tailored it to reach out to most of the children that attend WBC and those that live in our immediately surrounding neighborhoods.

On the first day, that Tuesday, about twenty-eight children came from the villages of Bogles, Beausejour, Belair, Belvedere, Dover, and Meldrum. By the week's end, nearly fifty were

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present. They played games, memorized verses, did crafts, listened to Bible stories, and competed fiercely in various fun competitions each day. They worked very hard in doing all the above and behaving properly to earn 'Pirate Pickings' dollars (in denominations of 1, 5, and 10 dollars) to purchase various gifts and prizes that were left by the Cross Lanes team. All together, the little ones and young teens earned and spent more than \$2,400.00 in 'Pirate Pickings.' They purchased 'Hot Wheels' cars, puppets, watches, pens and pencil, etc. They also received a tasty treat at the end of each day. They had a wonderful time! More importantly, they heard the gospel explained clearly and simply.

Everyone worked together and the VBS went very well. Many of our adults helped, including Kathleen Alexander, Franklyn Scott, Jeshua Robinson, and even Mavis Mitchell. Mavis surprised us with a visit from the mainland, and she joined in to help as well.

We were touched when the majority of the children responded on the last day to indicate that they had put their faith in Christ! We praise and thank the Lord for making the VBS possible, working through each of the adults, and for reaching into and touching the hearts of the children. Thanks also to CLBC for the materials that helped make the VBS possible. *Please pray for the spiritual growth of each child that understood and responded with open hearts to the person and finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is very likely that very few will receive encouragement and instruction from parents at home.*

Last Chance Ministries Website

I have not done much to my website this year. Yet, we still get many visitors each day and notes from them from time to time. I have including a few excerpts here:

From Pakistan

Dear Fellow worker, Walter Robinson

This is Pastor Muazzam John the National Director of GPC, We really have enjoyed visiting your web site. We are pleased to see your plans and purposes for the propagation of good news in Christ to the whole world. God is in control and He has directed us to make contact with your ministry.

.....

Dear Heart in Christ, You are prayerfully invited to Pakistan as God has put in our heart. Yes, we like to see your ministering in Pakistan. We believe that God is going to bring a great revival through your dynamic ministry and people will see great works and glorify the Father in Heaven.

Your impressive ministerial work should be introduced here in Pakistan so as to reduce the tension among Spiritual Field workers and in this way the work of the Lord Jesus Christ would grow more and more. So please prayerfully consider your fellow workers in the Holy Field.

I look forward to hearing your heart burning desires and vision. You are in the center of our prayers. We love you.

May God bless you and keep you in His love Care! Amen.

Short and Sweet From Zarrin Shahr, Iran

TANK YOU

Afshin Telebi

From Capetown, South Africa

Praise the lord pastor.....

I am a new born-again young boy studying at the university of Capetown am doing my Msc. in engineering. I have decided to go back to my lord I was really far away from him and now have decided to return to him. I believe in my own I cant but through prayers I can make it and now am writing this mail to you just to ask for your prayers and if possible some advices on how to live this life believing in God and the main thing is how to stay strong in him.

Many Thanks

Gwakisa

From a Missionary in India

Thank you for including Ford Porter's tract in Hindi on your website. Very few organizations have such material....

Bill Patterson

From a Witch in New York;

It really gets me angry how you call me, alot of my friends and 1/5 of the United States is evil. Yep, acording to you, Everyone who is Wiccan is evil and goes to hell. Maybe you should actualy ask a witch about their beleifs before you condem anyone to your imaganary hell. As for the satanic beleifs, wiccans don;t even beive in satan. And I really want to know why you think we are evil when we have done nothing evil to Christians.

(By the way, there was not one mention of witches on my website at the time this person left this comment. She simply had searched the internet for "Christian websites to leave comments." I included this excerpt to show that people with all kinds of beliefs find their way to our website in various ways.)

There are many others have written from time to time. Some (mostly from Africa) have asked me to send them the MP3 Bible teaching messages in MP3 format on CDs. For many, internet connections are still slow and expensive.

There is so much more that could be done with the internet ministry if I had the resources, time, and help. *Please remember to pray for the power and effectiveness of the Word of God being broadcasted through LastChanceMinistries .com and LastChanceMinistries.org, and WindwardBibleChurch.org. As I believe you can see, the Lord is using it to reach people in places I could never reach in person — even witches in New York!*

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Prayer Requests and Praise for Answered Prayer

1. **(Ongoing and Urgent.)** As mentioned already, we desperately need the roofing on our home replaced. Also, pray that we would not get showers or rain while the roof is in the process of being replaced – whenever it takes place.
 2. **(Revised.)** We need to get our old car back in running condition again so that we can sell it. It has been down since late last year. We plan to use the money to repaint and reupholster our old bus, or sell the old bus and use the proceeds from both to purchase another bus. **(We have the parts and I began reassembling it in June, but had to stop due to back pain, and then being busy with VBS and hurricane recovery. I hope to complete reassembly this month, Lord willing.)**
 3. **(Revised.)** We need to sell our old bus or recondition it. We must constantly watch the temperature gauge and add water to it because it needs a radiator. It must be replaced soon or we could lose the engine. **(I now plan to fully restore this bus or sell it and replace it with the money I hope to get for its sell and the sell of our car after I have gotten it back in good shape. We need to get \$6500.00 to \$7,000.00 (US\$) from selling them both. This past May, we received a gracious gift of \$9,000.00 to meet our targeted goal of 10,000.00 to purchase another bus! We found and purchased another bus in June! This is a big praise and answer to prayer. Please pray for us to find the exact one the Lord has for us.)**
 4. **(Ongoing.)** The purchase of welding tanks so that I can make repairs to our vehicles and the bars on our church building.
 5. **(Ongoing.)** We need to have a sign made for our meeting place in Windward for *Windward Bible Church*.
 6. **(Ongoing.)** Purchase of several sheets of decorative plywood to replace paneling on the walls that was damaged in our meeting place during the storms and subsequent rains.
 7. **(Ongoing.)** Completion of electrical wiring for our meeting place so that we can get our own power meter.
 8. **(Ongoing.)** A small desk and chair for my office in our meeting place.
 9. **(Ongoing.)** Paint to repaint the concrete floor of our meeting place.
 10. **(Revised)** Funds to pay for the purchase of two small window air conditioners and a closet-shelving organizer arrived in April. We must keep one room in our house with controlled humidity to protect precious books, electronic equipment, and recorded media from the salt air and constantly high humidity. We are currently using my office in our home for this. I estimate the total cost at \$250.00 (US\$). **(We received these items in April. So far, the church that purchased these items and shipped them to us have not told us how much we need to pay, though I have phoned the**
- pastor and asked twice. I am currently waiting for his response. However, I am thankful to report that all shipping and import fees have been covered! Thus, we will likely only need to pay for purchase cost for the items.)
 11. **(Ongoing.)** Funds to build a restroom attached to our meeting place. We need a toilet, sink, pump, and other plumbing necessities, construction of a septic tank, and a small cistern (or tank) to store water caught from the roof.
 12. **(Praise!)** The team from CLBC brought some seventy of the 100 hymnbooks with them. They have already been put to use and none were damaged during the storm! **We are thankful and praising God and our people are truly enjoying them.**
 13. **(Ongoing and Urgent.)** For a few additional churches or individuals to begin to support us until we take furlough next year or in 2007. We would rather take furlough in 2007, but may have to do it in 2006 because of the pressing need of additional support.
 14. **(Ongoing and Urgent.)** We desperately need another family to come and work permanently with us in the work here. We need a man to work as both an assistant pastor and youth pastor. A woman is needed to help in the ministry to young children and help Linda with ministering to the ladies.
 15. **(Ongoing and Urgent.)** We will also need one or two families to take over for us when we do take furlough in 2006 or 2007. We will likely be on furlough for six to twelve months. I cannot see how we can take furlough unless we have someone to take over in our absence.
 16. **(Ongoing.)** Ongoing health and continued improvement for me (Walter). I have been doing much, much better concerning the health issues that were treated last year. Linda and Jeshua have also been doing well. Yet, I have been suffering back pain since the latter part of May after I pulled the engine out of the car to repair it. Sometimes is just a nagging nuisance, at other times I need to lie down and try to lay flat until it gets better. **(Please remember to continue praying for this need, and especially for the Lord to strengthen my back and heal it.)**
 17. **(Ongoing and urgent)** For guidance and provision as Jeshua seeks to learn the Lord's will for his life as he plans to further his education. He finished his twelfth year and is now looking forward to attending college. He is interested in medicine – specifically dentistry. He is considering a couple of schools at this point, one located in Huntington, West Virginia, and the other in South Carolina. Yet, his mind is not made up and he is still seeking the Lord leading and provision.
 18. **(Ongoing.)** Hurricane season is well underway and breaking records along with our windows and roof. Meteorologist are predicting this year to be much worst than last year! Some on the mainland and on Carriacou still had not yet recovered from damage and destruction

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from last year, and now they are contending with damage and destruction cause by Hurricane Emily. Please pray that all of Grenada will be spared from another direct hit from hurricanes and tropical storms this year.

19. **(NEW and Urgent.)** Proper repair of our meeting place for Windward Bible Church in the Village of Windward. Our landlord had spent about \$3500.00 to buy new roofing material last year. She is not wealthy and I believe she had to borrow money to purchase those materials. She has told me that she is hoping to have someone from Grenada to use as much of the old sheets as possible and to install them more firmly than last time. However, she cannot say when this will be done yet.
20. **(New.)** We need to replace our old standby generator (made in the 1960s). I prefer another Onan RV twin-cylinder type rated at five or six KW, with remote start and shutdown capabilities. Either LPG or gasoline will work. This type is built to run for long periods and they are rather quiet and less likely to disturb our neighbors. Our old one is worn out and burning one quart of oil every one to two hours of operation. A used one in good condition would be great and cost much less in duties to get it into the country. This is *not* a luxury for us when the current goes out for long periods after a hurricane or for other reasons. We need it to keep our refrigerator cold and to supply water to our house by the electric pump.

As mentioned in our last two prayer letters, we would like to take furlough in 2006 or 2007 – the Lord Willing. We really do need more support to bring us up to our set support level. Perhaps you know of a church or pastor that is looking for,

or is open to taking on the support of new missionaries – even if it is only temporary – until we take our next furlough. If so, please send me their contact information. Even better, you could put in a good word and recommend us to them. They can find all the information about us they would need at:

www.windwardbiblechurch.org

In the mean time, please pray for new churches, individuals, and groups of like faith to be led to support us to help meet our current needs.

Thanks again to each of you that stand with us by your prayers, support, and words of encouragement. You are indeed constantly touching our lives and all those we reach each day. We are truly thankful to God for each of you.

Still looking up for Him,
(Signature deleted from online version for security reasons)
Walter Robinson II
(For all the Robinsons on Carriacou)

Please send all support to:

Holy Mount Baptist Missions Helps
P.O. Box 4177
Kingsport, Tennessee 37662
Tel. 423-247-1212
Email: Holymtn@Juno.com

Our overseas address is:

Walter II or Linda Robinson
Hillsborough P.O.
Carriacou, Grenada
West Indies
Tel. 473-443-7764
(Overseas Grenada direct)