

WISE

Windward Islands School of Evangelism

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM AFAR!

Thanksgiving has passed once again and even though it is not a holiday celebrated here, we still ate together and shared our reasons for being thankful. We are so grateful for God and His generosity. We constantly see it in so many ways! Sometimes raising support for the school here can be daunting and scary, but so many times we see God being so generous through all of you. We could give you hundreds of examples. But we want to share a few from just this past year:

- *A young 17-year-old boy* started coming to WISE with Brother Lance and his University of Missouri Christian Campus House students. It was his first trip outside the US. After several trips he shared how the cultural exposure here helped him understand the universal nature of the gospel. Seeing what it looks like to devote one's life to serving others meant a lot to him. After he graduated college, this year he sent funds to pay for a new basketball court at WISE with money he earned on an internship. This court is not only used constantly by students, but it will also enable us to hold our first community basketball camp this coming spring.
- *An anonymous person*, whom we have never met, nor has he visited the campus of WISE, heard about the school and helped us become debt free by graciously giving one-fourth of what was needed to complete the purchase of the new property.
- *A graduate gives* \$10 a month of the little she has so other students can experience what she experienced.
- *Faithful givers* – We have so many of these wonderful people who for 5, 10 and even 40 years have given month after month even when student enrollment has been low, when staff was hard to find and when we have not known what the next day will bring.
- *Teams have come*, giving up their vacation time for a week and paying for supplies to help us do needed work around campus. They give of their talents, time, money and love to help bless current and future Christian leaders.

As we enter into the Christmas Season, we can't help but reflect on our abundant God providing abounding life: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son" (John 3:16). Jesus was born to us and gave His all for us!

Shortly after Jesus' birth, wisemen came to visit this special baby. After traveling a great distance, the Bible says in Matthew 2:11, "On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." They gave, not even knowing this baby and after much travel and peril.

Thank you for giving generously so that the world might be transformed. We are grateful for all of you. We are grateful for staff who go above and beyond to ensure each student has a meaningful time at WISE. We are grateful for our beautiful campus with warm weather, a garden and trees blooming year-round. And we are so grateful for our excited students who are growing in grace and knowledge and who bring purpose to each day as we teach them. And we are grateful for our graduates who are spreading the Gospel in the Caribbean. We are grateful to get to do what we do here and thank you for helping, with God's provision, for us to do this!

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM HERE TO THERE!

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift is from above. . . ." James 1:17



Student Highlight

WISE is thrilled to have Brother Liston Thomas with us from Jamaica. After becoming a Christian a few years ago and finishing school last year, he was told about WISE by a graduate. He longed for a change and decided to do better and work on becoming a leader. Now at WISE, he says he has found the perfect place to fulfill his dreams and move forward even in the hard times. He most enjoys the understanding, love, respect and fellowship here at the campus.



WAITING, WAITING - PRAYERS PLEASE

Property Update – Thanks to the generosity of so many, we are ready to purchase the beautiful property here. It is a done deal! We are just waiting on some paperwork to be finished.

Approval of Academic Programs – Although progress has been made in the ongoing work toward program approval for our Associate Degree, we have become aware of further template requirements for our syllabi, which are going to require a lot of additional work. We were not informed of these previously, but we now have been advised that this is what we need to do. Staffing changes in the Barbados Accreditation Council have caused further uncertainties. This is a process, and we ask you to pray for wisdom and strength and patience to do what's required of us to see this through to completion.

Upcoming Youth Retreat in a Few Weeks – Pray for youth to come and be challenged to know and live fully for God. Southside Christian Church in Mexico, MO and the Christian Campus House at Mizzou are helping us sponsor this event.





Celebrated a great fall with First Christian Church in E-town, KY bringing Christmas gifts and Greenwood Christian Church in Canton, OH redoing our cafeteria and putting on our Fall Apple Festival.

WISE WISHLIST Need

Due to electricity outages occurring more frequently, we are hoping to purchase two generators for the school to keep the food in the food storage areas from spoiling.

Generator = \$1,200 US each
