

WISE

Windward Islands School of Evangelism

Ministry Continues

COVID-19 has brought changes to the whole world. Our small 21 mi. by 14 mi. island has not been immune. We started out the year with 3 of our graduates stuck an extra 9 months due to canceled flights. Then, with quarantine and flights still disrupted, we decided to let the first-year students commence classes online in hopes they could arrive on campus. There was much pray concerning this situation as so much of our students' learning happens in-person. Not only are the students getting Bible degrees, but they are also learning how to work in unity with people from other countries. They are participating in hands-on ministries to equip them for church leadership. They become like family to each other and to the WISE staff members. Many of the students come from broken families, and at WISE they witness faith-filled marriages and child rearing. So online is not ideal for all we want to instill in their lives. Adding to the online learning difficulties is that in some of these countries the internet is turned off parts of the day and is not adequate for Zooming. So, at the end of the semester, we had to make the hard decision that for them not to fall more behind, they would have to be in-person after that first term. Three students were able to get here, but six were still not allowed entry due to visa and flights issues. This was hard for them and us to hear, but these times have brought challenges to many. So, we pray these students will be able to come to WISE in August and continue their studies.

Beginning February 3rd, Barbados once again went into lockdown. COVID numbers have increased here due to visitors and locals violating protocols. This means that banks, markets, all restaurants, etc. have close. Churches have been closed for over a month, and schools are online. For us here at WISE, this is not a huge hardship as we can meet as a family. The officials say to remain in your yard, and our land (yard) is large. And more importantly, they allow our classes to continue. But for a small island and the families who live here, this can be devastating. So many have lost their livelihoods. Many are lonely and sad. Churches here don't have the online giving capabilities; and so, with not meeting, these are hard times.

In just a month WISE will welcome the transition to the fifth director of WISE, Bro. Daniel Wheat. He and his family will train and serve under the current leadership, and then our family will leave after the April graduation. In all the director changes and staff changes at WISE over the last 40 years, one thing has remained the same – the mission of WISE. That mission is to bring in students from all over the Caribbean to be taught, challenged and disciplined; and then to send them back to their homes to reach their villages, parishes and countries for Christ through preaching, teaching, discipleship and church leadership. We are excited and hope you will continue to pray and partner with WISE in training these leaders.

In His Service, Brice and Amanda Wurdeman

Graduates Growing the Kingdom

We often get asked how many baptisms we have each year. The primary ministry of WISE is teaching and discipling students who have been recommended as future leaders in God's work. So, typically most students come here already having been baptized, and we work to develop them. Usually class sizes remain small, and that allows us to pour into the students' whole-person development for two years, which prepares them to return home as faithful husbands, better fathers and more committed leaders in their churches. WISE has never concentrated on the numbers. Some years we have had two students, and some years 27 students. But what we do know is this...

Over 300 Graduates in 40 Years

- Of those graduates still living, more than 90% are in some way involved in ministry.
- In the past 5 graduating classes, WISE graduates have **baptized** over 150 people upon returning home!
- 10 New churches have been started.
- Students from 14 countries have attended WISE and have been impacted for Christ.

All Serving One Great God!



These graduates have recently sent two students to WISE to be trained and then to return to join their church in growing servants in Jamaica.



After being home only a few weeks, three of our graduates are currently discipling 25 young people and baptized three of them. You can view more of their new ministry at [VINE \(Vast Inward Nurture for Eternity\)](#).



Pictured here is one of the seven students who went back to Guyana and started new churches. As her husband pastors, Sis. Samantha runs a successful salon trade she learned at WISE to help provide finances for their family to minister.



This graduate from St. Vincent housed many orphans and helped eight children be adopted from her orphanage.



This graduate started a clown ministry to encourage people all over to share in God's joy. More information on his ministry can be found at [Clown Festi Therapie Haiti](#).



This class was affectionately known as “The Haiti Eight.” They have gone back to Haiti and started churches, prison ministries, kids’ clubs, football clubs and so much more. More info can be found at [LUKE101](#) and [KidsCLub Pignon Haiti](#).

Praise and Prayer Needs

- Please join us in praying for churches and pastors across Barbados. We are praying for their perseverance, faith and provision.
 - For COVID to be eradicated and for those struggling with it to be healed.
 - For potential students to be able to come in God’s timing.
 - For the transition of Directors’ families.
 - For sustainment of WISE in these times.
 - For current students in their training here.
 - For the mission of the school to be uncompromised in truth and training.
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