

WISE

Windward Islands School of Evangelism

NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW ARRIVALS

After a quiet Christmas celebration at WISE things burst into action. A 10-member team from Christian Campus House at the University of Missouri arrived on January 3. On the same flight arrived Chuck and Mary Terrill. They will be here for a year to help with teaching. A day later Kenny and Tia King arrived. They will be here for several months to help coordinate work team projects and look after the large volume of maintenance projects on the campus. Meanwhile, the team got to work on building two walkways that were really needed, one coming from Jeff and Jane's house and one completing the path from the men's dorm to the chapel. They also painted the main administrative office and a classroom, as well as the exterior of the white house, where Chuck and Mary are living.



While all this was going on, Chuck climbed up a ladder in the carport to help with the painting. Next thing you know, he was on the concrete floor and not remembering what had happened. He had to be rushed to a medical clinic, which transferred him to a different clinic for a CT scan, and they sent him to the hospital. It was discovered that he had a brain bleed, as well as several broken bones in his face and fingers. He also suffered some displaced ribs, which have caused him quite a bit of discomfort. He spent several days in the hospital while they monitored the brain bleed. Obviously, that is not the way he

wanted to start his time in Barbados, but with all the many prayers that were said for him he did very well and was able to come home to continue to recover and rest up. He has started teaching his classes now and is continuing to gain strength, under the expert care of Mary, who is a nurse.

NEW TERM BRINGS NEW STUDENTS!

Classes for the new term started the day before the team left, and we were delighted to welcome three new full-time students to join the first-year class! These are all adults from right here in Barbados, so they commute every day from their homes to attend classes. For some of them this means catching a bus (maybe more than one) to get from their home area to an area closer to campus. Then we either pick them up with a kind of shuttle service from WISE or have one of our teachers who is traveling to campus pick them up on the way.

In addition, we have between 15 and 20 other local persons who are taking individual classes. For the most part, these people are taking advantage of classes which are offered in the evenings where it doesn't interfere with their work schedule, and they can attend via Zoom. Meanwhile, the second-year students are into their FINAL term and are eagerly looking forward to graduation in April!

As you may recall, for the past several months we have been in a holding pattern with the Immigration Department with regard to the issuance of student visas. This prevented several students who had already been accepted by the school from coming this past September. While we continue to pray for those doors to open and look forward to welcoming students from abroad later this year, we are excited and grateful for the upsurge in interest we have seen locally. We have been able to advertise and do interviews on local media to help make the name of WISE more widely known. We have a group made up of staff, alumni, and local church leaders who have been working on a WISE Barbados Recruitment Strategy, so we will continue to implement elements of that strategy going forward, and we anticipate seeing more new students as a result of these efforts.



Some Barbadian first-year students

NEW SEASON BRINGS NEW NEEDS

Prayer Requests:

1. For all our students, and especially the new ones: Marcia, Monah, and Dennis
2. For all our teachers and staff members
3. For the King's and the Terrill's as they serve here at WISE
4. For recruitment efforts abroad and in Barbados, and open doors to bring in those students from abroad who wish to come

WISE Wish List (prices in US dollars):

1. New refrigerator for one of our housing units (\$700.)
 2. 17 cubic foot garden cart (\$650.)
 3. Walk behind bushhog trimmer (\$1100.)
 4. Table saw (\$850.)
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NEW DAYS BRING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

This term we are doing a series of messages in our Tuesday chapel services entitled “New Things From God.” We are exploring many of the new things mentioned in Scripture, and we started with “A New Creation.” As believers, we have so much more than the turning of the calendar to a new year. We are nothing less than totally new creations in Christ (**2 Cor 5:17**), with all that entails for every day, 365 days a year.

When I asked one of our teachers how it was going with our new students, his face lit up and he said he was enjoying it so much. He explained that although they are older and have been out of school for a while and one has to be patient with them, they are so eager to learn and so glad to be here. May that be an encouragement to each one of us. Every day brings precious opportunities to learn and to serve as Christians, and to rejoice in the blessings of all the new things we have from God. As Paul said, “we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day” (**2 Cor 4:16**). Thank you for sharing in this ministry of WISE. Please continue to remember us in prayer. And may God bless each of you with new opportunities to live for his glory every day in 2023!

Gratefully,
The WISE Staff



Work team and WISE students celebrating the beach in January