



Vacation Bible School 2008!

by Brenda Phelps



The theme for the 2008 Convention and Vacation Bible School was, "COME". Matthew 14:29 *"And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus."* This spiritual journey began Monday, July 7 and ended Friday, July 11, 2008 at New Bethel Zion in Jamaica. With over 60 enthusiastic students in attendance, I realized that this event was a resounding success and would be an experience of a lifetime.

The teachers for 2008 were Missionary Rosa Dennis, Dublin GA (teenagers), Evang. Linda Butt, Milledgeville, GA (pre-teens) & Min. Brenda Phelps, Winston-Salem, NC (primaries). Classes were held Monday thru Thursday with a fun-filled cookout at the beach climaxing the week on Friday.



It was my first trip to Jamaica and I had my own expectations of what was to come, before I stepped foot onto the beautiful tropical country. I was greeted with bright smiles and never ending light courtesy of the beaming sun. These were some of the brightest students that I've ever met and their desire to learn set the ambience for the entire event. In spite of the smoldering heat, each day the students arrived with contagious enthusiasm. Their hunger for this education became an inspiration to me, as I quickly realized that this trip to Jamaica would provide me with more than I had expected. This became evident the day that, upon our arrival the students began to chant "Teacher Teacher". I was speechless and overwhelmed with joy.



While on the island, I had the pleasure of eating authentic Jamaican meals prepared each day by either Mother Green, Ms. Levette or Ms. Nellie. Every morning during the general assembly the students would sing melodic songs that touched the hearts of all within an earshot of their harmony.



Again, I was pleasantly surprised by the students when they were given the task of memorizing the theme verse overnight. Almost all of the teens and pre-teens recited it verbatim. On Thursday afternoon the students were presented their 2008 VBS Attendance Certificate along with personal gifts bags that were donated by supporters of the American Jamaican Links from the Milledgeville, Dublin & Macon, Georgia offices along with Women of Grace. As always on every trip to Jamaica, Dr. Clyde Green faithfully takes care of the health needs of the community. The medical clinic is opened from 9:00am to 3:00pm while Vacation Bible School is in session. With a steady flow of patients, nurses, Wilehemia Vincent, Linda Butts & Rosa Dennis along with & Sis. Pauline Finikin & Ayana Brooks take care in assisting patients



**New Bethel Preparatory School
Opening in September 2008!**

before they see the doctor. Many of the patients depend on the clinic as there primary source of medical care.

I thank God for the opportunity to serve as a teacher during this year's Vacation Bible School. I came to give of my time and talent but left with so much more . We were embraced an given the opportunity to see the heartache and heart of God for the people of Jamaica. Dr. Green, thank you for the vision for I know it was God's plan to bring us together. I look forward to continuing to support and introducing your vision to others who have a heart to go into all the world and share the love of God.

American-Jamaican Link is a excellent outreach ministry for any church, Sunday School class, civic group or person who has the desire to help those in third world countries like Jamaica to Africa. Want you consider becoming a sponsor in helping to build the lives of those in need. You can sponsor a child's primary education at the New Bethel Preparatory School with a donation of \$750 (3yrs) or a yearly contribution of \$250 per child. A monthly/annual contributions to help with the cost of medical supplies for the clinic would be appreciated as well. God wants to use YOU to make a difference.

Within the USA, send all donations to:

American Jamaican Link Charitable Foundation
114 Ragan Drive
Gray, GA 31032

Within Jamaica, send your donations to:

American Jamaican Link Charitable Foundation
New Bethel Zion Church, Parottee, PA.
St. Elizabeth, Jamaica

The American Jamaican Link Charitable Foundation is a 501(c) 3 organization and contributions are tax deductible. Check us out at www.usajalink.org for additional information on upcoming trips



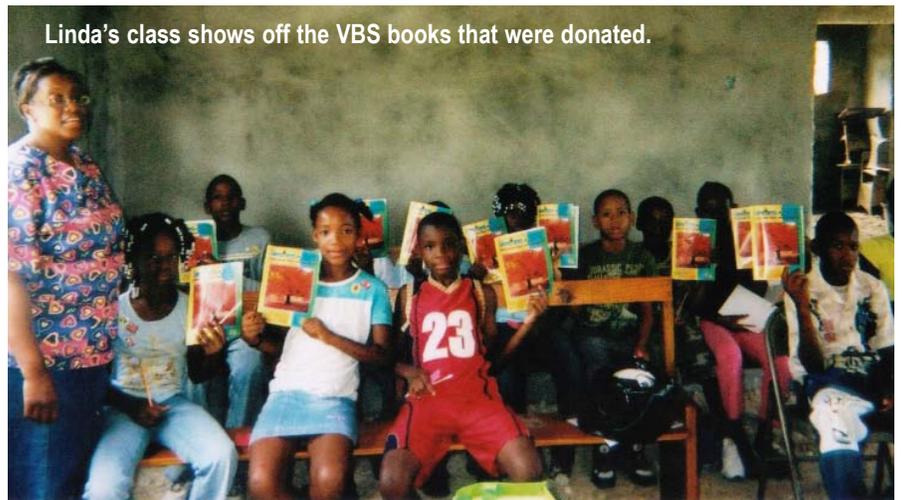
Dr. Clyde Green shares the fruit of the island with WOG President, Brenda Phelps



**Pastor Victoria Green,
New Bethel Zion Church**



Evang. Pauline Finikin



Linda's class shows off the VBS books that were donated.



The beautiful lake scenery.



A authentic Jamaican meal of cabbage & salt fish, yams & dumplings. DELICIOUS!



Rosa Dennis & Wilehemia Vincent at work in the clinic.



Brenda Phelps gives Kenneth his name tag.

Below: My personal "tour guides" that showed me their community.





Community Store



Primary Singbirds



We caught the cow fleeing his owner.



Dr. Green enjoys a swim with the children.



Missionary Rosa Dennis preaches during the revival.

