

Lloyd & Elaine Cook

Serving the Lord in Jamaica



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While we regret seeing our elderly friends 'go home', the Scripture tells us that our heavenly Father wants 'to bring His beloved ones home.' "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord...that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them." (Rev. 14:13)

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However many additional years God shall grant us, will be spent for Him, and in gathering souls for His Kingdom.

Aiding the Wounded is a situation we find ourselves doing more and more as God brings needy family and neighbors to our notice. A number of them have had 'difficult times' emotionally, socially and/or psychologically. We have had to temporarily house, comfort and counsel two such young men in recent months. One is now housed at a government institution; another is still in an unresolved situation that requires your continual prayers. These situations have caused us much stress, physically and spiritually. Do continue to lift us and them up before our Lord in prayer often. Thanks!

While Elaine is deeply involved in ministries within her local church, including infrequent preaching assignments, she misses her former school-based visitation and youth counseling opportunities that, because of the Covid-19 schools shut-down over the past two years. The recent re-opening of face-to-face classes throughout the educational system may provide new opportunities. Pray with her that may come about soon.

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My part is to reprise the record I did in my first book, of that church's role in preparing and sending the sons of former slaves as missionaries to certain African and Latin American countries during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. I also want to highlight the church's creditable work in winning the slaves to faith in Christ, and continue to do so through special evangelism efforts and agencies, up to the present. We ask for your assisting prayers that the Lord would give Lloyd guidance, favor and information to accomplish these history-writing tasks.

Elaine and I want to, once again, express our gratitude to each of you for your years of faithful prayers for us and your financial gifts which have enabled us to serve nearly fifty (50) years of missionary service, abroad, and now back home.

All praises be to our God, and to you His loving children who have been our 'helpers' these many years. May our faithful and Loving Savior and Lord meet all your needs through His mighty power.

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God has promised multiple times in His Word, that He will 'never leave you nor forsake you.' Even our increasingly graying hairs is said in Scripture will be 'flourishing', as God continues to help us, and cause us to bring Him glory.

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The results of the blood work was generally good, but the MRI results indicate possible bone problems (the possible condition of 'Pagets' disease was mentioned) He was referred to an Osteopathic physician, who referred him to a Physiotherapist. Lloyd has done one session and is due to return in a few days for a second. We are taking all this in stride, and trusting God to guide us as to the future.

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Elaine: continues actively as a Lay-Preacher with the Methodist Church, but has asked to be used sparingly so that she may go back to some of the Youth involvements she had before the Covid-19 shut down. These include getting back into schools with her 'Wait & Win' program: proclaiming the wisdom of delaying sexual involvement until Marriage and allowing the Lord to transform them by putting their faith in Him, and developing strong moral and spiritual standards. She would also like to go back to the government Literacy agency youth, bring them into the Church Hall to have members instruct them in various educational and practical skills they can use in the future. She would also like to get back to having Children's Evangelistic Clubs in the churches of the Circuit. These are ministries that fill her with a sense of purpose and usefulness.

Family: Lloyd's daughter was here from Raleigh North Carolina two weeks ago, and we visited with her a couple of days in Montego Bay. She is working on Jamaican Citizenship, so that her son can respond to requests for him to possibly represent Jamaica in Greco-Roman wrestling. He has won a number of High-School and State competitions. Do continue to pray with us also for a nephew of Lloyd's who has psychological problems and resists institutional care. He is finally in such care, but is not fully submitting to the process. He also needs spiritual maturity, to grow well in his new faith experience. Pray!

Like you, we are concerned, often scared at the many world situation that cause wars and fears. We pray that peoples' hearts would turn to the Lord for HOPE. This seems to becoming a time of FEARS and much lack of reason to HOPE. People need the Lord, and we want to do all we can to point them to god and salvation through His loving Son. May each one of us, and you, make this a priority in these seemingly 'Last Days'.

We rejoice in the knowledge that God is in charge of world affairs, and He is not being taken by surprise by any happening. Remember that His Word tells us that "When you see these things beginning to come to pass, lift up your head and look up for your redemption draws near." (Luke 21:28)

We rejoice for your faithful support and prayers. Your partnership is vital to our service for Christ. We pray also for you and yours.

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Though we here in Jamaica have not developed the Thanksgiving tradition, (Christmas is our big family gathering and feasting day) we do want to join you in regarding the day, and to Give thanks to our dear Heavenly Father for all His blessings and every goodness He has showered upon us.

Family: We thank God that have gone through much of the year without any serious difficulties in our family; but that we were able to play a part in helping a nephew of Lloyd's as he faced emotional and psychological problems and adjustments. We believe he is a good way along the path of healing and readjustment, so we thank God 'a whole heap' for His mercies and goodness towards us as a family. And we bless him that there were no serious difficulties during the Covid-19 epidemic. One of Elaine's brothers did spend some time in the hospital, but has recovered quite well. May the Lord be praised!

Lloyd has lost a large degree of his energy and sprightliness since reaching his 80th birthday in May. But he is learning to accept that he must slow down, and not walk as much as he was accustomed to do. Dental work replacing his dentures via implants has not been painless, and has affected his ability to chew well with the implants. This may be a part of the reason for his energy loss. He is thankful for the good intentions that led to this 'gift', as he tries to adjust to its use, despite difficulties. Otherwise, he is very well, thank God.

We thank God that our Granddaughter, Annika, is into her second year in College. We praise the Lord that she claims faith in the Lord. We believe the Lord will give her wisdom, as she asks Him, to let her know what teachings to question and which to reject as contrary to God's truth as she find it in His word. Our grandson is excelling sport-wise. He has won a number of competitions in High School, and state competitions. He and his mother, our younger daughter, is hopeful he may one day represent Jamaica in international competitions. Pray that the national passport applications will come through. We would be proud to see him lift up our little island's influence in yet another sport.

Faith: How we praise the Lord that we were born in Jamaica where faith is fully practiced publicly without any restrictions; and we pray it will continue to support righteous living, even when other more well-known countries are surrendering culturally on moral and religious customs. And we thank God that we were brought up in 'Christian homes, and have sought to propagate it at home and as missionaries. The Lord's grace has been fully realized, and we thank Him for His gracious gifts to us once again this year.

Neighbors Coming to Us: Though we are no longer on the foreign mission field, we seem to almost daily have people coming to us seeking help in various ways: financially, for advice on family issues, even psychological. Eventually we detect spiritual needs that we seek to meet. Sometimes we lead them to put their trust in God to meet every need as they "Seek first the Kingdom of God and all these things will be added to you. One young man had problems at work, because of an instrument he had taken. The manager issued accusations with threats, and loss of job. Our counsel was that he take the humble path: confess his wrong and guilt, and with convention trust the Lord for giving him deliverance and eventual victory in his life. We got to pray with him to submit his life to the Lord. Pray for his help and deliverance!

As we have been reading in the gospels, we often see that Christ saw people and their needs and he had compassion on them. He would meet the need, and when he sent his disciples to tell people of him, he gave them of his power to meet the evident needs of people. We try to do the same and be living witnesses for Christ. We thank God for the privilege of helping people to go to Jesus to meet all their needs. May we all try to follow Jesus Christ's example and so accomplish his will here on the earth at this time.

Lloyd is involved in a new book-writing project as he, and about half-dozen others, are cooperatively writing a history of the up-coming bi-centenary of the Church of England in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. His part is to focus on the development of evangelism and foreign missions during the past 200 years. It has been refreshing to retrace God's work through this denomination, and my family has been a part of it. Thank God! May this record of the church's history stir new commitments among their present membership.

Lloyd also seeks relief from many years of being the Secretary to the Mandeville Ministers Association. His increased age demands he cut back on some of his activities. We trust that the Lord will show who should succeed him, as we continue to effectively represent our Lord in this community.

Elaine continues to be active as a Methodist lay preacher, with special focus on getting children to understand and place their faith in Christ as Saviour. Christmas is a special opportunity to reach children with the true joy of God's gift to us in Christ. We thank God for being able to tell his story every opportunity we get. We pray the same for you: we are each God's witness in this place and time. We likewise thank God for your faithfulness, in being our partners by your care, prayers and financial support through all these years. As Christmas approaches, we pray for God's daily blessings on you and your families. Thanks!



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June 2022

Greetings friends and family,

As Elaine and Lloyd face their later (increasing years they have noted that a number of friends and acquaintances are being 'taken home' one by one. This has made a growing number of widows and widowers. They have also been made aware of these older friends marrying each other, in these their later years. We rejoice with them, and like to see these remarriages of older friends, and wish them well, as we look forward to the day when we shall meet in our Father's home: free at last from the vicissitudes of our earthly sojourn and service: where they shall be no "no marrying no giving in marriage."

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In loving thankfulness

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A Ministry of Harvest International, Inc.

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