

MISSIONBAHAMAS

Hurricane Relief | Spiritual Growth | Sustainable Agriculture

New Horizons

We are thrilled to have been accepted as a project with the New Horizons Foundation a 501(c)(3) in Colorado Springs. New Horizons acts as an additional layer of financial accountability and provides the opportunity for our donors to receive a tax-deduction letter for their gifts to MissionBahamas. Click [**here to be taken to our account at New Horizons**](#) or click the Donate Now button at MissionBahamas.org

A Taste of Worship

Rev. Loren and Rev. Jessica preach regularly at the four Methodist churches on Grand Bahama, including Sunday worship, 6am Lenten devotional worship, evening worship and bible studies. Click the link below to experience the praise team at St. David's Methodist Church in Eight Mile Rock.

Link: [**Music during worship!**](#)



Easter Blessings

We bring you the joy of the Risen Christ from Grand Bahama! As we celebrate our first Easter here, we give abundant thanks to all who have supported us with prayers, words of encouragement and financial support for our ministry work here.

While there have been challenges, we hold a hopeful vision of bringing mission teams to provide essential hurricane recovery for the community and transformational experiences for all involved.

With the financial support of [Celina United Methodist Church](#) in Celina, TN and individual donors, we are preparing to repair the roof of the St. David's Methodist Church Community Center, which has been unusable since Hurricane Dorian in 2019. Once the roof is repaired, it can be cleaned up and used again for after-school programs, Sunday school, Boys Brigade (Bahamas Boy Scouts) and so much else.

We look forward to welcoming our first mission team in June, the youth group from [St. Timothy's Episcopal Church](#) in Winston Salem, NC. They will be rebuilding the picnic area at the community park owned by St. David's Methodist Church and then providing activities and meals for children in the community.

We are so thankful and humbled by all of you who have joined us on this adventure. -Rev. Loren and Rev. Jessica Boyce

Playtime in the Neighborhood

Our boys Alexander & Zachary love playing in the neighborhood. Living in the manse (home owned by the Church for pastoral use), everyone knows who we are, and that we are a safe place for fun, and free emergency babysitting.



Pictured are Zachary and a neighbor girl painting rocks. A group of kids painted dozens of rocks and left them around the neighborhood to bring little bits of joy.

Ways to Support our Ministry

1. Bring a Mission Team: We welcome teams of all ages and project types year round.
2. Church Financial Support: Ask your Mission Committee to sponsor a MissionBahamas Sunday special offering. We will provide worship materials, including a recorded sermon, if desired. Many churches also provide ongoing support to missional programs.
3. Individual Financial Support: Click the **Donate Now** button on our website to make a tax-deductible donation.
4. Spread the Word: Share this newsletter or our website on your social media, with your church, family and friends.

Communion in the Community

Most of our time is spent in the community of Seagrape in Eight Mile Rock, where St. David's Methodist Church is located. Our huge Ford F-250 diesel truck stands out, and can be heard coming from blocks away. It is a Bahamian practice that after worship on a Communion Sunday, the pastor takes communion to the homebound or ill members of the congregation, and others as requested. St. David's has not had assigned ordained clergy in many years, so many people went without this sacred ritual regularly. While slowly driving the dusty roads of Seagrape one Communion Sunday morning, a man walking along the road shouted out, "Hey Rev, where's mine?" We stopped the truck and Rev. Loren got out and celebrated communion with the man, and now he waves us down to talk every time he sees us. We cherish these developing relationships.



Greenhouse Going Up

In conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, our first greenhouse is scheduled to be built in June. With 30% of people on the island experiencing food insecurity and 90% of the food imported, the Covid pandemic laid bare the struggles regarding healthy and affordable foods. Hurricane Dorian flooded the water treatment plants, and the tap water is still not safe for people or plants. Greenhouses and shade houses must be equipped with rainwater catchment systems, which increases the cost and the need for training for the volunteers that will be supervising them. The seawater flooding also damaged the soil, so raised beds with potting soil are also required. Once we have the large greenhouse and shade houses functioning, we can begin agriculture and cooking programs for the community. We are especially in need of mission teams of gardeners, agriculture students and those who can swing a hammer to grow this program. Come join us!