

Groggs in Dominica

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hospitality

Not my will Lord, but Yours...

This season saw us hosting three, rather large gatherings (in my opinion). Having never hosted anything other than birthday parties back in the States, this has been rather challenging and stressful for me. It's outside my comfort zone and if I had my way, I wouldn't be doing it.

Life isn't about my way though, as much as I think I want it to be. Surrendering to the will of my Lord has been a struggle in several areas, not just hosting. I don't think I'm good at it, therefore it tends to stress me out.

However, Jason feels God is calling us to host and I clearly see that God has given us the space and location to host, plus the call to share His love and the Gospel

with all who will listen. And so, this season, we hosted.

I mentioned Thanksgiving in the last newsletter. Christmas Day we hosted 16 here, including two medical students from Nigeria. On the 29th, we held a Year End Dinner for the Christian Fellowship Club. That added ten people to our house, plus Jamie, the young man who's been helping us work on the lower apartment.



Correction Needed *CEF Christmas Events*

They were held! We found out rather last minute that Child Evangelism Fellowship was still holding it's Christmas Events.

The weekend before Massacre's was to be held we received a call from the Director asking if she could meet with us. When she

... PRAISE ...

- Nathan and Jenn both injured their right knees recently. Mostly deep abrasions with bruising but Nathan also had a puncture wound. We're very thankful that both are healing quite well, with no trips to the clinic needed.
- Work on the lower apartment has been going well and safely.
- If all continues to go well, Sandy's car will be ready when she arrives.
- We are enjoying very much the cooler (winter) temperatures.

... PRAYER ...

- Continued safety and wisdom during lower apartment construction. We are down to one month before Sandy gets here and there's still much to do.
- We have several larger hopes for this new year and would appreciate prayer and support. These include starting a church, a Christian school, the carpentry program and a tire recycling plant. Yes, it sounds very ambitious, but nothing is too big for God and if we don't start chipping away sooner than later...



arrived, she handed us the booklets to get familiar with and was told the time and the names of the two women who'd received the Christmas Event training.

When we arrived at the Massacre school (Mass-ack) and met with the first volunteer to arrive, we were told we were actually in charge of one of the groups! She was taking the other group and wasn't even aware there was a second volunteer.

Our family took the older group of kids, acquired an upstairs classroom and waited for the them to come in, which didn't take long.

Pretty soon, a teacher was ushering in children, having them each find a chair. The room, which was actually one large room that could be divided for two classes, filled to overflowing. More chairs were brought in, and we finally had a very packed area. We estimated there were at least

80 kids under our charge, ranging in age from 12 to 16.

We started the event with prayer, read the Christmas story from the Bible, went through the CEF material, sang some carols with them and released them for snacks. Afterwards, we stuck around outside in case any wanted to talk. After a while, a group of girls gathered around Hannah, Gracia and Elijah.

The opportunity was grabbed and the girls taught them one of the Twin Lakes camp songs, something about a little birdy that went "Tweet Tweet." It was a great time and we're looking forward to going back weekly once school is in session again. After we've had our official CEF training, we'd like to take over the Massacre and Mahuat schools, teaching them once a week and building relationships.

Transportation

We've been very blessed

While we still don't have the overseas truck we purchased (6 months ago), nor do we have a shipping date, we have been told that it's scheduled for shipping.

For the last two months, we've been using an

American couple's car while they're back in the States and the truck that Jason was finally able to get working again.

Today, Jason is picking up the couple at the airport and handing their car back over. The pickup we've been renting is suppose to go back to its owner at the end of January. Our overseas truck won't be here by then so we're hoping the owner will grant us an extension. We're also hoping and praying the transmission won't go out before we return it.

Jesus is King!

Until next time,
the *Groggs*

*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!*

