Missionary Brad Pridmore

Friends and fellow laborers,

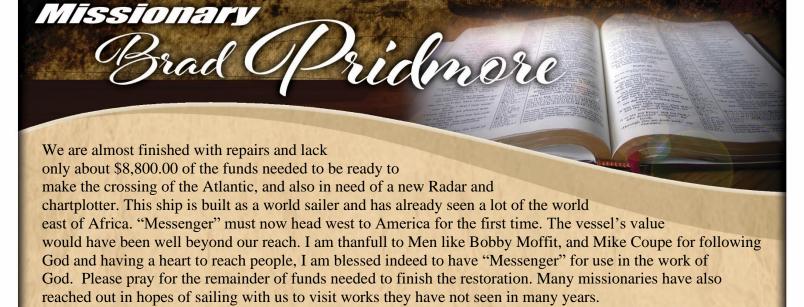
Thank you for taking the time to read this update, I know life is busy, and I truly appreciate your prayers and support. Third quarter 2024 came with some great accomplishments. This summer we were able to travel into the final river areas of the Darien Jungle, The first was Rio Sambu and the second Rio Chico. Both of these areas had unusual challenges. Rio Sambu required a long 65 mile trip one way with over 20 miles of open ocean. We used about 80 gallons of fuel round trip. Rio Chico, on the other hand, required a 36 ft shallow water canoe, also called a dug-out as it is built from one long tree. Amazingly the canoe could handle over 2,000 lbs of Bibles and rice for the 3 ½ hour trip up-river. We were able to make contact with all churches and the schools of these areas and to give Bibles

to all. The primary school in the area of Rio Chico also taught English, so the kids enjoyed sharing a few words in English as they all received a Bible in Spanish. There are 4 major river areas

containing a little over 40 villages, all of which we have now visited at least once. This makes 12,000 Bibles we have distributed to the river communities by boat and nearly 40,000 total in Panama. What a joy to be able to meet such a need in this area! The Darien Jungle is considered to be the world's deadliest jungle, and as such, one of the world's most unvisited places. Many have confirmed that we are the first group to carry Bibles into this area. I have truly been amazed at the kindness of the indigenous people of Darien. The indigenous people work hard to scratch a living on one of the world's last frontier lands.

Returning to Haiti

In July, as we returned from Darien, I had a new kindled burden for Haiti. I have been willing, but unable, to visit the church we planted there for the past 6 years. Ten years ago, as we prepared to plant a church there, I considered working the island from a sailboat; but, I had such a good shipping connection, we decided to continue working in the normal manner. As instability continues and shipping expenses grow, I have prayed once again about approaching Haiti by boat. I surrendered before God a request: I would return to Haiti if he would supply a boat. Within two weeks, through my friend Mike Coupe with Caribbean Partnership Mission, we were able to make contact with Angels of Hope Ministries and take possession of a 45 ft (55 ft overall length) Bruce Roberts sailboat. To the glory of God, this vessel was built in 2004 by a Southern Baptist man working in Dubai, and he named it the "U.S.S. Messenger", hoping it would carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It thrilled his heart to know that through Angels of Hope it would end up being owned by me. The boat was donated at no cost but was in port in Tunisia, Africa, where it had been sitting for 14 years. The dock fees were due and customs was a question. Within two weeks friends and churches sent in enough money to pay all fees, clear customs, and begin to bring "Messenger" back to life.



The Haitian Bible

Many of you helped through the years to finance the work for the Haitian Creole Bible translation. I helped start the work, and Brother Rodney Johnson took the lead of the project. Brother Johnson has partnerships with First Bible International and Trinitarian Bible Society to continue the translation work. To God be the glory, we will be ready to print in early 2025! As God provided the boat with perfect timing, I am excited about being a part of this distribution. I am trying to do my part in raising money for the printing & the distribution of Bibles. For every 20 dollars I can raise, 10 people will be able to have a Bible printed and delivered to them. It costs about \$1.20 for the paper, ink and other materials to print a New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs, and about 80 cents to ship and distribute them in both Haiti and remote areas in other countries. This cost was going to be twice as much without the vessel "Messenger". They previously paid about \$20,000.00 per container- not including distribution in the country of Haiti. We have partnered with Brother Larry Long out of Crossville Tn, who will transport the Bibles to Florida at no cost to us. In August, we received another Tractor Trailer load of rice. We were able to share about 9,000 lbs of this rice to the flood areas of N.C. and still have 30,000 lbs ready for Haiti as soon as "Messenger" is ready to sail. For anyone wanting to help, we have partnered with Caribbean Partnership Missions. Any funds, whether special offerings or monthly support, can be sent directly to them. I would love to spend the majority of 2025 on the seas. It would be a blessing and a dream to cover the cost of 100,000 Bibles in 2025. Please pray about being a part.



Your friend and fellow laborer,

Brad Pridmore



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