

**BETHEL CHRISTIAN MISSION**  
**SERVING JESUS IN JAMAICA**[Home](#)[About  
Bethel](#)[Experience  
Bethel](#)[Become a  
Partner](#)[Trip  
Resources](#)[Newsletter](#)[Contact  
Us](#)**Newsletter**

Karen and Dean Dawson

**Bethel Newswire, January, 2004 --**

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

As we look back on the past year, we are still amazed and delighted with all our Lord has allowed us to be a part of and we are looking forward to 2004 with great anticipation!

This fall, Bethel hosted almost a dozen Jamaican church retreats and were blessed with wonderful times of fellowship, serenades by choirs, and powerful messages from the Word. We cherish these moments with congregations from across the island who we have met here. God is constantly drawing new people to us and we are so grateful for the local churches spreading the word that Bethel is a wonderful site to worship in.

After much planning, preparation and remodelling – the Luther Rice Seminary Library was moved from Kingston to Bethel at the end of October. Jamaican pastors who are students will now have an easily accessible site to do research for their classes. We welcome this opportunity to be a part of providing pastors with the highest level of Biblical training available in the Caribbean.

November found us travelling back to the states to take part in 2 mission conferences. We are praying that the Global Medical Missions Conference held at Southeast Christian Church in Louisville KY will encourage some medical and dental teams to come to Jamaica. Please pray that the hearts of those we visited with will be stirred by the Holy Spirit and that they will decide to sacrificially give of their time & talents. Medical & Dental care is so expensive here and most Jamaican's do not have medical insurance – so they regrettably cannot attend to their family's health as they would like to . . .

The conference held at Ankeny Evangelical Free Church in Ankeny IA was a wonderful time of reunion with Pastor John Colyer & his wife Judy. God really worked in the congregation as they poured out blessings and received us into their homes and Bible studies. We are excited that they are sending a team in February to help us spread the Gospel through a Women's Conference and to children at area Primary Schools!

We were thrilled to spend time with our children and grandsons Brett & baby David Michael who was born in October. What a joy to have an early Christmas with them. We treasured every minute and are so grateful to our Lord for making us a family who supports each other with a tremendous amount of love.

Many preparations for Christmas were started once we arrived back in Jamaica. What a blessed time of celebrating the birth of our Risen Saviour! Over 750 bags of toys and candy gave us the opportunity to share the true reason for the season in the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ! Karen and Marcia visited nine Basic Schools of 3, 4 & 5 yr olds to read them the Christmas Story from the Bible and gave them gifts to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

We attended Christmas Pageants with Shepherds in bathrobes and Angels with glittery paper wings. The sparkling eyes of children singing Christmas carols is a warm way to remind us all to be child-like in character as we approach the throne of Grace! It's universal world over!

