

Spring Summer 2008

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Our Hope Is Sure

"...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Is. 40:25

HOPE seems to be a popular issue during these Presidential Election days. But when we read the daily newspaper or watch the news on television, we could only view the days as becoming more and more HOPELESS.

We use the word HOPE in many different ways. "Hope you feel better tomorrow." "Hope you enjoy your vacation." "Hope to see you soon." Hope seems all so uncertain. But what is HOPE for a believer? Is it only a wish or part of a greeting? NO!

If your HOPE is in the Lord, you can use the word HOPE with 100% certainty. The Bible says:

"Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my HOPE comes from Him." Ps. 62:5

"For in this HOPE we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all.

Who hopes for what he already has? But if we HOPE for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently." Rom. 8:24, 25

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their HOPE in God." I Tim. 6:17

"...while we wait for the blessed HOPE—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ" Tit. 3:13, 14a

All this relates HOPE to FAITH.

"Now FAITH is being SURE of what we HOPE and CERTAIN of what we do not see." Heb.11:1

We pray that you place your HOPE in the only ONE who can give you a SURE HOPE. *"Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession..."* Eph. 1:13

AMD Fall Deaf Retreat

It's time to make plans to attend the 2008 Fall Deaf Retreat **Oct. 10-12.**

This year we will gather at **Twin Pines Camp**, Stroudsburg, PA. This is a beautiful setting as you can see on their web site: www.twinpines.org.

Reserve your spot now by mailing your completed registration form and fee no later than July 11.

See Registration Form on page 5 Additional information regarding the retreat will be provided on receipt of your registration and fee.

Pictured below is the 2007 group at Blue Mountain Retreat Center. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and growing in the Lord.



Short-Term Missionaries

This year has been packed with blessings from the compassion and service of several Short-Term Mission Teams.

We were encouraged by the work done by a construction team from Faith Evangelical Free Church in Allentown, PA who for the past 18 years has had a major part in building the campus of the Jamaica Christian School for the Deaf.

In January this year, Faith EFC once again sent a construction team. They repaired, reconstructed and upgraded the water catchment system as well as painted the outside of the dining hall and dormitory. Thank you to the men of Faith Church for your hard work and faithful service over the years to the glory of God.

Also, from Faith EFC, a team of men and women has interacted with the children and staff at JCSD for the past 14 years planning and implementing a program patterned after Vacation Bible School renamed Deaf Bible School. This program has included over the years Bible lessons, art projects, craft projects, recreation, mission emphasis classes (introducing the children and staff to the lives and struggles of needy children in other countries), games and projects that help the children review and understand the Bible teaching, and the giving of gifts and ending with a trip to swim in a nearby stream.

Here are pictures and excerpts from emails received from some of the DBS Short-Term Missionaries:

KING CASTLE, (pictured below) a teacher of Computer Technology at Lehigh Christian Academy,



expresses his joy in this way. “Mikye, Owayne & Shawna-Kay blew me away when I began teaching the students at JCSD computer technology.

After planning a rather simple lesson plan, it became quickly apparent that they could learn and wanted more. The students understand Microsoft Word very well so I began to teach them Excel. After two days, I could see that they understood that Excel is about cells, cell addresses and math.



“Robertha, (pictured above) a child with cerebral palsy, can hear but has trouble speaking so she learned sign language to communicate. When first coming to JCSD, she had a great deal of difficulty walking, now you should see her run in relay races. She is a sweet young lady who never gives up, loves the Lord and always has a smile on her face.”



BETH PATTERSON, a church interpreter at Life Church went for her third year as a teacher on the Deaf Bible School Team.

“We were very blessed to conduct DBS at JCSD again this year. The children were divided into classes according to ability. There were Bible lessons as well as classes in art, recreation, crafts, computer technology, and Missions and U.

“We saw children commit their lives to Christ and others growing in their knowledge of Him throughout the school year. I was blessed in the students recounting the stories themselves on the last day of class showing their understanding of what was taught.

“On the last day we had a time of celebration and gave gifts to each child as well as giving materials and supplies to the teachers and staff—all of whom seemed grateful.

“The children were always very receptive to expressions of love and every hug. We left with the gift of their smiles in our minds and hearts.”

Beth taught the concept of being bound by sin versus being free in Christ. (pictures at the top)

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHERI AND JOE NATALINO on the birth of their second child. Pictured at left are Joe, Cheri, daughter, Ava (21 months old) and new son, Noah born April 23.



Thanks & Congratulations

Thanks to **CHERI NATALINO**, our webmaster for faithfully providing this wonderful avenue of information concerning activities, prayer requests and needs. Cheri designed and keeps our website updated. We thank the Lord for her willingness to help us in this area.

Hurricane Relief Work

Hurricane Dean caused damage on the south side of Jamaica in the area of St. Elizabeth, Jamaica when it hit in August 2007 including significant damage to the roof on the Fellowship Hall at the Deaf Bible Church in the Top Hill Community near a little town named Junction. In February 2008, a mostly experienced (especially in roofing) construction team replaced that roof.



KERRI CASSEL, an administrator for a firm, joined Calvary Bible Fellowship Church team from Sinking Springs, PA for her first experience on a Short-Term Mission Trip. Kerri writes:



“My trip to Jamaica in February will not be my last! Although I had no experience in either construction or in sign language, I had a love of the Lord, a sense of adventure and a willingness to learn.

“The preparedness of the members of our team in handling the plans, making reservations and tool checklists and communicating with the team put me at ease... Indeed, I saw firsthand that **OUR GOD IS AN AWESOME GOD!**”

“Short a team member (passport problem), two vital pieces of tool luggage (airline problem) and confidence that we could finish the job in 4 1/2 days (human problem), helped us discover how powerful prayer really is. The job was finished in 3 1/2 days, leaving us that last day for a bit of fellowship and sun.

“The deaf community was there for us, encouraging and supporting our efforts and helping where they could. At the end, it was with such joy that they assumed ownership once again of this vital community center for the deaf people in this area of Jamaica.”



Egypt comes to Jamaica

In March, **PASTOR LARRY AND TERESA PICKAR** and four others from the congregation of Egypt Community Church in Egypt, PA journeyed to JCSD to spend a week of service at the school. They worked and interacted with the Jamaican students and staff. Friendships were established, stories shared and God’s presence was seen throughout the trip.

Work projects completed by the team were: painting and laying tile in a Day Care room for babies, painting

and hanging strips of wood for ceiling tiles, sanding and lacquering doors, painting window slats in the new washroom plus spending time with the children in and out of the classrooms.

Each day they returned to Fair Haven Christian Retreat Center, their “home” away from home in Jamaica tired, but blessed in being able to be God’s vessels to help.

The Pickar’s share this about the ministry: “JCSD is really a ministry of faith; they have a wonderful staff that loves God and the children and wants them to find their purpose in life.

“The needs of the school are great as well as the need for sponsors to support the

children individually in order to provide funds (\$30 a month) to keep the school open. Each child would love to know someone cares for them.

“Be sure to visit our website at, www.egyptucc.com, where you can find some photos of our trip. Click on link at bottom left on the home page.

“Thanks to AMD and Nancy for their help as we planned the trip. We will continue to pray and support this vital mission outreach.”

Have you ever considered a Short-Term Ministry trip? Are YOU willing to GO when God calls you?

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Matthew 9:37, 38



Excerpts from new E-mail Prayer Letters and Updates of Praise



Jamaica Christian School for the Deaf

From Principal Marcia Reid . . .Greetings to you in our Savior's name. As we reflect on what our Lord did on Calvary, let us give Him thanks for LIFE, let us praise Him for His grace and mercy towards us. God's grace and mercy has brought us this far in this ministry. He is faithful.

Giving praise for:

- Deaf Bible School Tea
- Those that had sessions with our staff
- Those that rapped and gave council to our students
- Those that assisted in the classrooms
- Those that cooked for us
- Maintenance teams
 - Signs installed
 - Water catchment re-installed
 - Four buildings painted
 - Cupboards built
 - Laundry room built
 - Renovated playground
 - Screened windows/doors
 - 3 Rooms tiled
- Those that held or hugged a child
- Those who sat with us to encourage us
- Those that gave gifts and funds

Continue to pray for teacher Christene Pinnock recovering from a tumor in her brain which has affected her eyesight. There has been improvement.

School Happenings:

- Sports Day & Hat Day (pictured top left)
- Spelling Bee competition with another deaf school
- Four students participated in Special Olympics (pictured top right): Navalee, Monique, Robertha, Kevin W
- School Van got a facelift
- Completion and sale of our School Magazine (Yearbook) available for \$9 (contact AMD)
- Groundbreaking for Vocational Training Centre
- Dance Team won 1st place in competition

Health and Prayer Issues:

- Thanks for support for Nicoya's new glasses
- Leonardo, Dwayne and Alex's health
- Increase in parents' involvement in their child's school life
- Funds for new school van (\$10,000 needed)
- Rest and strength for Marcia Reid and the JCSD staff
- Additional Monthly support needed
- Staff apartment to be completed



Pray for School Challenges

A representative of the Ministry of Education came to visit JCSD and was impressed with the school but there are needs for other government inspections:

- Need Fire Extinguishers
- Major repairs in our kitchen and bathrooms

Congratulations

Mrs. Dian Thompson

JCSD's Academic Head who graduated with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Education from Western Carolina University. (pictured top center).

Meet Four New Students

Pray for Keron whose mother died in May from breast cancer.



Keron 10 years



Kemisha 17 years



Trecell 10 years old



Kevin C. 8 years

RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

Please print clearly

Title _____ First Name _____ Last Name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone /TTY/VP# _____ E-mail Address: _____

RETREAT FEES: If coming for entire conference, complete Full-Time Attendees section. If coming for only part of the time complete Part-Time Attendees section.

FULL-TIME Attendees

Mail by July 11

Registration Fee \$35 x _____ # of people = \$ _____

Mail by Sep 12

Remainder \$82 x _____ # of people = \$ _____

LODGING Number of Adults Attending:

- _____ single man
- _____ single woman
- _____ married couple

PART-TIME Attendees:

Mail by July 11 Registration Fee

\$12 x _____ #days attending x _____ # of people = \$ _____

circle the meals in which you'll participate

Saturday: Breakfast/Lunch/Supper **Sunday:** Breakfast/Lunch

Fill in any that apply:

Saturday 3 meals @\$36 x _____ # of people = \$ _____

2 meals @\$24 x _____ # of people = \$ _____

1 meal @\$14 x _____ # of people = \$ _____

Sunday 2 meals @\$24 x _____ # of people = \$ _____

1 meal @\$14 x _____ # of people = \$ _____

TOTAL for Meals \$ _____

Mail by Sept 12 Remainder which is your total meals payment.

AMD Annual Fall Deaf Retreat

October 10-12, 2008

Registration Form
& Non refundable Registration Fee
Mail by July 11

**Please send
registration
ON TIME
Thank you!**

Register now to reserve your spot to join us at this beautiful setting in Stroudsburg, PA.

Full-time Attendees: Total cost is \$117. Include the \$35 nonrefundable payment for each person with your registration and mail by July 11. Mail remaining \$82 by September 12.

Part-time Attendees: For each day and each person attending include \$12 nonrefundable payment with your registration form and mail by July 11. Indicate which meals you need and figure the total cost on the form above. This remaining amount is to be mailed by September 12.

More information will be provided to you on receipt of your registration and payment.

Mail the completed registration form (above) and your nonrefundable fee for each person registering.

Mail by: July 11, 2008

To: AMD

P.O. Box 3090

Allentown, PA 18106

Make checks payable to AMD.



Twin Pines Retreat Center

3000 Twin Pine Rd. Stroudsburg, PA 18360

www.twinpines.org

Remainder
Mail by September 12

American Ministries to the Deaf
P. O. Box 3090
Allentown, PA 18106

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****Sign up below for updates & prayer needs thru JCSD E-NEWS**

Ways I would like to help AMD.

Use this form to communicate with our office.

Name		
Street Address		
City	State	Zip Code
**E-mail Address	Phone / TTY/VP#	

Address change: Fill out your new address on the lines above and send entire page which includes your former address on the label .

I would like to help AMD in ministering to deaf people to be used as designated below:
\$_____AMD General Fund (including Bible Correspondence Course Materials)
\$_____Top Hill Church Vehicle Fund
\$_____JCSD Sponsorship
\$_____Ministry of Marcia Reid
\$_____JCSD Van Purchase (\$9,000)
\$_____JCSD Special Needs (most needed)
\$_____TOTAL Donation

I'd like to partner with one of the new JCSD students as checked here:

Kamisha Trecell Keron Kevin C.

See the JCSD Sponsorship brochure for details. A copy is available on both the AMD and JCSD sections of our web site.

-
- **Sign me up to receive JCSD E-NEWS
- Send me one copy of the JCSD DVD.
- Send me ___ (#) JCSD Sponsorship Brochures.
- I would like to partner with JCSD student(s).

PAYMENT METHOD

Send an e-mail receipt

Paying by CHECK Make payable to AMD.

- I will **regularly** send a check each month /quarter / year in the amount of \$ _____. Enclosed is my first check.
- This is a **one time** gift in the amount of \$ _____.

Paying by CREDIT CARD

- Make this a **regular** donation to be billed to my credit card each month / quarter / year for \$ _____ distributed as indicated until further notification.
- This is a **one time** donation for JCSD Sponsorship. Please bill my credit card in the amount of \$ _____.

Circle One: Visa / Master Card / Discover

Card #	Expiration Date
--------	-----------------

Signature of Credit Card Holder

Ministry donations to AMD are tax deductible. AMD is a non-profit religious 501 (c) (3) charitable organization registered with the IRS. Missionary or student name written on the check is not recognized as tax deduction by the IRS. "The official registration statement and financial information of American Ministries to the Deaf, Inc. may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll free, within PA, 800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.