

2 0 0 7 F E B R U A R Y E D I T I O N

# the CARIBBEAN Connection

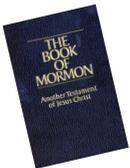


THE WEST INDIES MISSION COUPLES' NEWSLETTER

## Message from the Mission President

Dear Couple Missionaries,

We are so fortunate to have each of you serving within the West Indies Mission at this particular time. There is not a better time to be serving a mission with the best companion ever. Our theme this month is the Book of Mormon. We will be focusing on how to teach the missionaries to "treasure up in their minds" relevant scriptures from the Book of Mormon, and then "it shall be give you in the very hour that portion that shall be meted unto every man" (D&C 84:85). As missionaries have even greater confidence in the Book of Mormon, they will have greater confidence in themselves and investigators will feel of this power. As Elder Ballard, proclaimed, "they must know that they know how to teach."



As mentors to these mighty miracle-in process missionaries, I would like to invite you to join with us in helping the less actives rediscover the Book of Mormon and the Spirit they felt when they came to know that Joseph Smith is a prophet and the Church of Jesus Christ was restored upon the earth. This book is most important in our work in establishing the Church throughout the mission. Our reverence for the book can be demonstrated as we quote from it and illustrates our ability to "liken" the scriptures (1 Nephi 19:23) as did Nephi. Paraphrasing words in the Book of Mormon will illustrate its relevance to those whom we love and serve.

May the Lord bless each of you in your ministries. Thank you for accepting the call to serve within the West Indies Mission. We love and appreciate you.

President and Sister Robison



# A Miracle Story

## FROM THE ODDENS IN SURINAM



“Our miracle is a little 9 year-old member girl named Rikonnie Brown. She was handicapped from the time she was born with a handicap in her left foot. One leg appeared shorter than the other and she was unable to

walk without limping and being off-balance. In our activation efforts, we met her mother, a member who was baptized in December of 2005. Her name is Agnes Lugart Brown. When we met Sister Brown, we quickly learned that she was unable to attend Church because of the handicap of her little girl. We asked her if she had ever taken her daughter to the doctor. We thought that it would be possible to surgically correct the handicap. Sister Brown replied that she had never taken her daughter to the doctor. We offered to take her daughter to the doctor as soon as we could get an appointment and when we first went, we found that we had been told the wrong day. So we returned the next day, and the doctor was not there that day. After failing to find the doctor two previous times, we did manage to get Sister Brown and her daughter in with the doctor. His manner was rough and disrespectful. He told Sister Brown that she was 9 years late in getting proper treatment, but an appointment was secured with a specialist. Being unfamiliar



with the doctors and medicine in Suriname, Sister Oddens was very concerned about the surgery and especially the anesthesiologist. However that day while at the airport picking up a Church visitor, she met a lady waiting in the crowd who was not only an anesthesiologist but the one who would be helping with the surgery the next day of Rikonnie. She was most comforting and she reassured me the surgery would go well. And go well it did. Rickonnie was in a cast for 6 weeks and is undergoing physiotherapy. Doctors say she will not



even have a limp. We feel like we are on holy ground as we visit these wonderful people. They are all our brothers and sisters. It does not matter what is the color of their skin. Heavenly Father loves all His children.”

Elder and Sister Oddens

***“ ... Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground” (Exodus 3:5)***

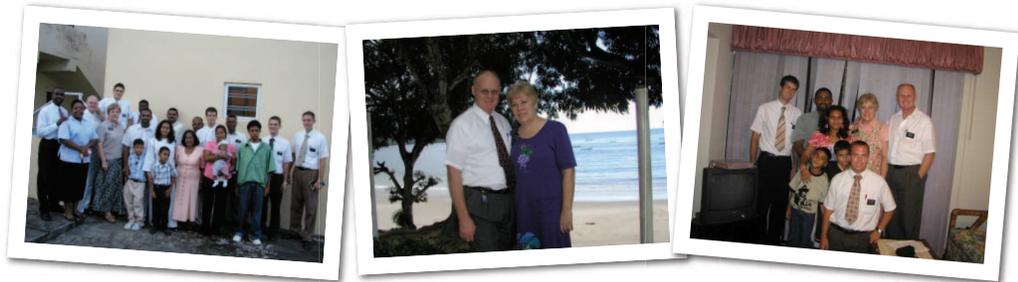
# *A Farewell Message from the Allens*

**WE WILL MISS THEM AND APPRECIATE ALL THEY HAVE DONE!**

“Wow! That year and a half went by in a hurry. We love you all for the help you have given us in our office mission call. We have learned so much and you have all been so patient as we stumble. We have truly felt the angels helping us along.

Our real joy has come in working with the people here in Trinidad. There is no greater experience than seeing the gospel come into the homes of good people and watching as their lives are transformed. After a day in the office, a night out teaching with the Elders is such a wonderful reminder of why we are all here. Our prayers are with you all and the West Indies Mission.”

Love,  
The Allens



*\*Elder & Sister Allen leave to go home, March 8. President & Sister Dunn leave their home in Guyana, March 1, to take over the Mission Office duties in Trinidad. We will miss them very much in Guyana!!!*



## *Welcome to Elder and Sister Rose*

Elder & Sister Rose are serving in Guyana as CES missionaries. They are from West Jordan, Utah, with a family of 8 children and 22 grandchildren. They served a previous CES mission in El Paso, Texas.

### *And a final note:*

Here is a picture that exemplifies the thrill of being missionaries in the West Indies Mission, and the privilege of being members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints!

**HURRAH FOR ISRAEL!!!**

