

Evangelism in the U. S. Virgin Islands

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Once again, I bid you greeting in our Lord Jesus Christ. I trust that all is well with you brethren physically and spiritually. Thus far in the hurricane season we have been blessed. The only one that has affected us at all, Hurricane Dean, passed us by, only giving us some rain.

Summer Gospel Meeting - July 15-20

Our second gospel meeting of the year has come and gone. Brother Perry Hall of Winston-Salem, North Carolina came among us for the second year in a row. I have no doubt that the church enjoyed his preaching as fully this year as last year when they heard him for the first time. All comments I heard about Perry's preaching and character were positive. The theme for the week was *Marriage & Parenting the Godly Way*, with the sermons titled...

Sun. 9 AM *Preparing for and Maturing a Marriage - Preparing to Prepare*
Sun 10 AM *Preparing for and Maturing a Marriage - Spiritually (1)*
Sun 6 PM *Preparing for and Maturing a Marriage - Spiritually (2)*
Monday *Preparing for and Maturing a Marriage - Emotionally*
Tuesday *Preparing for and Maturing a Marriage - Financially*
Wednesday *Mary: A Good Example of a Godly Parent (1)*
Thursday *Mary: A Good Example of a Godly Parent (2)*
Friday *Mary: A Good Example of a Godly Parent (3)*

Once again, like we did in April when our brother David Smitherman was preaching our Spring meeting, we had a Question & Answer Session following the closing prayer each assembly. And, once more, this seemed both enjoyable and profitable to the congregation assembled.

Salt & Light

The total number of issues we distribute - via internet, mail, and hand - seems to remain about the same from month to month. Presently the total is about 200 copies per week. However, fairly regularly I get e-mails from readers who say they forward the bulletin each week to several friends (Christians and non-Christians). Most recently a sister in Christ in southeast Texas told me that she sends *Salt & Light* each week to 6 of her friends, mostly non-saints.

New Building

At long last the church is at the point of being about ready to have the foundation for our new building poured. We are presently awaiting the approval from the appropriate government authority for us to go ahead. Mostly the construction is being done by men of the church when they are off-work, etc., except when it is necessary to employ licensed plumbers, electricians and so on.

Our present building is an old prefab building. I believe it was actually two houses (temporary housing brought in after a major hurricane hit St. Croix a number of years ago) which were put together. We have an auditorium seating about 40-50 (white "outdoor" chairs), one restroom, and two classrooms. The new concrete structure (much better here since hurricanes are a yearly threat) will seat approximately twice the present number in the auditorium and will have two restrooms and two or three classrooms.

Member home from Iraq

We are deeply thankful to God that our sister Michelle Taylor returned home safely to us from Iraq the first of September. She had been serving there in the US Army for the past couple of years.

As always I covet your prayers that the St. Croix church will continue to grow in spiritual strength and number and that we will find those souls on this island to teach who truly desire to follow Jesus.

In Christ,
Michael Hurst