

St. Vincent Mission Trip July 13-25, 2006



Objectives:

1. To assist the Kingstown Evangelical Church in leading 150-200 children in activities at a Vacation Bible School from July 17-21. The curriculum will be "Go Global with Jesus."
2. To supply and set-up a Church library at the Kingstown Evangelical Church.
3. To lead adults and youth in volleyball activities in the evenings in the neighborhood of Rose Place, an area of outreach for the Church.
4. To help supply a community library in the town of Fancy, a remote community in the northern part of the island.

Participants:

Kelly Achilles, Ally Datz, Clay Dittman, Griffin Dittman, Scott Dittman, Susan Dittman, Amy Hayslette, Sharon Humphreys and Ruth Kitchen.

History of this effort:

In October 1975, Scott and I met as Peace Corps Volunteers in Barbados, West Indies. I was part of a team of teachers who were supposed to start an elementary physical education program in the island's 126 elementary schools and Scott was

to lead the Barbados Boy Scouts. Though neither job panned out as planned, a lifetime partnership was begun that led us back to the eastern Caribbean in 2005.

In summer 2005, while exploring volunteer and business opportunities in St. Vincent, we attended Kingstown Evangelical Church and heard Pastor Douglas Neverson announce that “not one person [had] signed up to help with Vacation Bible School” and the school was later cancelled for summer 2005. We decided to offer to try to take a group down in summer 2006 to help with VBS and wrote to the Church. The Church accepted our offer of assistance. In follow up correspondence it was determined that the group would also try to help with the other activities listed above and we have been working on gathering a team of volunteers and organizing to meet these needs since that time. Much work still needs to be done to fully meet these goals.

How you can help:

1. Join us on the trip. Airline and lodging reservations have already been made for nine people, but it may be possible to add a couple more folks to the group. Contact me if you are interested in going this year and I can see if we can work out the details.
2. Contribute money. Contributions will first be allocated to shipping costs for the books, volleyball equipment, library set-up fees, and incorporation fees. If additional funds are raised, they will be used to cover lodging, meals and transportation. Checks should be made out to Caribbean Encounters, Inc. and mailed to:
Caribbean Encounters, Inc.
507 Borden Rd.
Lexington, VA 24450
3. Contribute books. We are specifically seeking high quality Christian books, both adult and children's. Books can be shipped directly to the Church in Kingstown or the Ministry of Tourism for the community library project, if you do not live in the Lexington, VA area. Books need to be shipped by mid-May to insure arrival by the time we are ready to set-up the library.

Christian books should be shipped to:

Kingstown Evangelical Church
P.O. Box 658
Kingstown, St. Vincent, W. I.

Secular books should be shipped to:

Attention: Marina Lampkin
c/o Ministry of Tourism, Youth, and Sports
Cruise Ship Terminal
St. Vincent and the Grenadines, West Indies

4. Participate in or help with our volleyball tournament. We will hold a Doubles Volleyball Tournament in Lexington, on April 29/30. Proceeds will be used to purchase Park and Sun portable volleyball nets and volleyballs to be used in St. Vincent and donated to the church. Details of the tournament will be available on our web site shortly: <http://home.wlu.edu/~sdittman/> or you can call Susan or Scott at: 540-463-3488. Corporate sponsorship of courts will also be welcome.
5. Pray. The primary purpose of this mission is to spread the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Most of all we need your prayers. We pray that all of our efforts will result in His glory to His Name and the furtherance of His Kingdom.

In His Service,
Susan



Two Vincentian schoolgirls



The Kingstown Evangelical Church