

# The Smith Family Record

Summer, 2008

Serving in the Caribbean Islands with Mission To the World

Palmetto, Florida

## Building A Movement Church Planting, Revitalization and Multiplication



Visitors to the website for *Mission to the World* find the following statement prominently located just below the masthead on the home page:

*“At Mission to the World we believe that God’s grace, demonstrated to us in the radical love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ, has the power to transform our world. Our mission is to build church-planting movements, whose energy continues to grow far into the future, long after we may be gone. Vibrant, nationally-led churches around the world will grow and multiply, transforming the culture around them.”*



As missionaries serving with *Mission to the World* since 1995, we have witnessed first-hand the transforming power of God in and through nationally-led churches, and we are committed to advancing church-planting movements in the island nations of the Caribbean.

We are blessed have some key ministry partners in the U.S. and the Caribbean whose resources will multiply the reach and effectiveness of our ministry. They are: **The Mars Hill Institute of Biblical Theology**, a study center in Port of Spain registered with the government of Trinidad & Tobago; **Ligonier Ministries**, which is providing study materials; and **Miami International Theological Seminary (MINTS)**, which is providing accreditation to Mars Hill students.



Mars Hill enrolled its first full-time students (eight) in February of this year, and enrollment is expected to increase this fall. In addition, we hope to launch satellite study centers in St. Vincent and Grenada this year.



## Theological Education, Incarnational Missions and Cultural Engagement

In the confluence of divine providences, there exist in the Caribbean islands: **1) an open door for evangelism** – even among the sizable Hindu and Muslim minorities; **2) a hunger and thirst** among pastors and maturing Christians who desire to fill their “education void” with sound, practical and biblical teaching; and **3) a growing desire** to present Christ and the Christian faith in practical, creative and culturally relevant ways.

For these reasons and more, *Mission to the World* has identified the English-Speaking Caribbean as an **“urgent need”** - a region where *more* resources, *more* Missionaries and *more* involvement from our home churches is desperately needed.

(see “The Urgent Need” on page two)

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[www.mtwla.org/people/rsmith.htm](http://www.mtwla.org/people/rsmith.htm)



Rev. Steve McGee, URC Missionary, with the first students of Mars Hill Institute of Biblical Theology. Enrollment is expected to double in the fall.

The Mars Hill Institute is a study center of MINTS and is registered with the government of Trinidad & Tobago.



Believers on the island of St. Vincent have shown tremendous interest in having a study center on their island.

A Seminar course offered in St. Vincent earlier this year drew over twenty students.

## The Urgent Need

(continued from page one)

Historically, the English-speaking Caribbean has been overlooked and neglected by missions agencies and organizations. But today it is one area of the world where investing in God's program can have an enormous impact, not just in the thirteen islands themselves, but also in the Hindu and Moslem lands where so many islanders originate and maintain connections.

**We** want to make the most of the opportunities these divine providences have given us.

**Our ministry partners** are dedicated to the challenge.

**Mission to the World** agrees that *the need is urgent!*

**We need YOU to make it happen!**

Here is how your financial investment will be rewarded and multiplied.

*You will see churches of the Caribbean islands that are*

- \* *flourishing* in their cultural contexts,
- \* *growing and reproducing*,
- \* *penetrating* their culture with the Gospel,
- \* *bringing people* into a transforming encounter with Christ, and
- \* *equipping believers* to guide the spiritual, political, educational and social structures of their society.



***I want to invest in church growth and multiplication in the Caribbean!***

— I would like to support the Smiths by giving \_\_\_\_\_ monthly/quarterly (my first check is enclosed).

— I would like to support the Smiths with a one-time gift of \_\_\_\_\_ (my check is enclosed).

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to: MTW*

Mail to:

Mission to the World  
P.O. Box 116284  
Atlanta, GA 30368-6284

*Clip and mail this portion to record your support for Ron & Peg Smith - #016829*