



New Mercies  
Christian Church  
Jesse Curney III, Senior Pastor

## Glad Tidings Missions Ministry

*Romans 10:15 - "And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace; who bring glad tidings of good things!"*

# THE MISSIONARY

Volume I, Issue I

March 2009

### Important dates:

- Training - Jamaica Mission, starts April 19th
- Missions Trip (New Orleans), June
- Missions Trip (Jamaica), July 23 - 31

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## Message from Min. Eric Hill, Missions Coordinator

Hello and Welcome:

On behalf of our pastor, Jesse Curney III, let me take a minute to say "thank you" for all that you do in promoting and supporting the Missions arm of New Mercies Christian Church. We are living in exciting times! Just as Mordicai reminded Esther, the young Jewish queen, that perhaps God had placed her in the position she was in to do a specific work at a specific time (Est.4:14), I believe God has planted us in His kingdom at this particular time for a specific work. The world is hungry for God. The closer we get to His coming the more outrageous unrighteous behavior becomes; however the darker it gets the more our lights are to shine.

Up until now most of us have associated missions with going abroad and evangelizing overseas. But look what God has done; the world has gotten very small. The world we live in today with the ease of travel, and global internet communication provide for cross cultural exchanges on a daily basis. To be a missionary simply means to share the good news of the gospel with someone of another culture. We need not leave our everyday surroundings to be a missionary; however we still need to go outside our boundaries to help build up the ministries of our brothers and sisters who are evangelizing their own homelands. We need to assist them in any way we can. Another part of missionary work is to provide relief for the brethren (Acts 11: 27-29), and that is what we purpose to do with God's help.

Through this newsletter we hope to encourage and showcase the efforts of those of you who have heard the missionary call and are responding. The call is twofold... those who go and those who pray for and support those who go, both play an equally

important role. In this newsletter we will have pictures and testimonies of how lives have been changed, faith strengthened, and hope restored. In each issue we will be highlighting a different missionary with pictures and a bio of that missionary. In addition each newsletter will have pocket notes of items discussed at the previous meeting, upcoming meetings, events, and trips.

In this issue we will focus on New Orleans. The ministry has taken three trips to New Orleans, a spring and a fall trip in 2006, and a fall trip this past year in 2008. Our focus has changed in New Orleans; the first two trips involved preparing residents homes for reconstruction. In 2008 and going forward our focus will be working with Habitat for Humanity to help construct residential homes. We will be taking a team back to New Orleans this summer to work with Habitat for Humanity.

In addition, in this issue I would like to introduce you to your Team Leads and their areas of responsibility.

Thank you again and may God bless you richly.

Min. Eric Hill  
Mission Coordinator  
NMCC



## What Is Glad Tidings Missions Ministry?

Glad Tidings Missions (GTM) is an Outreach Ministry of New Mercies Christian Church. GTM partners with national church planters and leaders that have a passion to see their country saturated with the Gospel through multiplying healthy churches. In these fields we are strategically involved through training, equipping, and serving these partners' ministry needs. Our short-term missions teams support the work of these church leaders in a variety of ways including teaching, evangelism, construction, medical and dental care, children's programs, and leadership coaching.

Teams are primarily limited to our partner fields, which focus our efforts and deepen long-term relationships. It is our partners who express the need for the arrival and assistance of teams from Glad Tidings Missions; they are the ones with the

passion and vision. They know the needs and struggles of the field. Therefore, our field partners are encouraged by our teams as they ensure the strategy fits into the long term goals.

Short-term team participants are carefully selected and intentionally prepared for the physical, emotional, and spiritual experience of a short-term mission experience. We believe that these experiences open a unique and intense opportunity for the Holy Spirit to deeply transform an individual participant. As leaders, we have a special stewardship to guide participants in this process.

***"Our vision is to mobilize the church for the fulfillment of the Great Commission by creating a missions-minded congregation."***

## What Does Glad Tidings Missions Ministry Do?

GTM serves in the following areas:

**New Orleans** - GTM partners with Habitat for Humanity in the Hurricane Katrina Relief. This project involves home construction and is open to anyone over 18 years of age. Short Term Missions Leader (New Orleans): Terry Rather.

**Haiti** - GTM partners with Chestnut Church to send a short-term missions team to Haiti. Short Term Missions Leader (Haiti): Larnell Reid.

**Guyana** - GTM partners with Prison Fellowship Guyana (PFG). We work with PFG in the areas of evangelism, life skills training, and medical assistance. Short Term Missions Leader (Guyana) - Teresa Atkins.

**Liberia** - GTM partners with Christ-Centered Ministries and El-Shaddai Children Homes. This project involves but is not limited to: teaching seminars, VBS, construction, and evangelism. Short Term Missions (Liberia): Dea. Wayne Ellison.

**India** - Short Term Missions (India): Willa Jenkins.



## Help Fulfill the Great Commission

***"The mission of GTM is to enlist, equip, and engage the church in the task of the Great Commission."***

If you are interested in fulfilling the Great Commission with GTM, you may contact us by:

Phone: (770) 925-8600 ext. 210

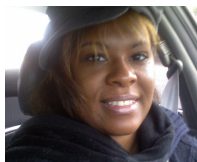
Email: [ehill@nmccmissions.org](mailto:ehill@nmccmissions.org)

Web: [www.nmccmissions.org](http://www.nmccmissions.org)

## Short Term Missions (STM) Team



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## Meet The Team - Min. Eric Hill, Missions Coordinator

Each month we will introduce a different member of the Glad Tidings Missions (GTM) Team. This month we're introducing **Min. Eric Hill**:



Min. Eric Hill is a native of Louisville, KY, but has been a resident of Atlanta, GA since 1997. He is married to Judi Hill and they have five grown children: four daughters (two married) and a son (also married) and seven grandchildren (the youngest being twins). He spent 2yrs 9mo in the U.S. Army serving overseas and later retired from the Army Reserves in 1993 as a Military Instructor

with the rank of Master Sergeant (MSG E8). After retiring from Bellsouth as an outside technician in 2001, Min. Hill ran his own janitorial company for a short period of time before going to work with the National Parks Service as a Park Ranger. He served as a historical interpreter at the Dr. Martin Luther King National Historical site here in Atlanta, GA.

Shortly thereafter he followed his heart and he returned to school where in 2006 he received his BA degree from Beulah Heights Bible College (University) in Atlanta, GA in the discipline of Biblical Education.

Min. Hill has received teaching certificates from the U.S. Army, the Evangelical Training Association, and New Mercies Christian Church. He is also a member of the Beta Eta Beta Kappa Honor Society of Beulah Heights Bible College

(University) in Atlanta, GA. In addition to his ministerial duties at New Mercies, he currently works as a security officer for the federal government here in Atlanta, GA.

Min. Hill was saved at an early age, but as so often happens, he drifted away from church...but not from God. He has been a minister for 16 years and has served as the vice-president of the Men's Ministry in two former churches as well as serving as a Sunday School Teacher and a member of the Men and Pastor's choirs. He has also served in the Prison Ministry, and Transportation Ministries. He is currently the Missions Coordinator here at New Mercies Christian Church as well as a member of the Noble Warriors Men's Ministry and a driver with the Transportation Ministry. When he gets the time, he enjoys fishing, golfing, and spending time with his family.

## On The Front Lines — New Orleans

**Going Home... A Personal Story**  
**By: Sandra Carter**



***“The famous 9<sup>th</sup> ward of New Orleans that was once a lively community consisted of homes smashed together like accordions, overturned cars, and debris.”***



After an 8 hour bus ride, we crossed over the section of I-10 near New Orleans that had been under water due to the devastation caused by hurricane Katrina. The bridge was now held up by supports.

The water over the bridge seemed peaceful on a sunny April day. Unfortunately, that was not the case on Monday, August 29, 2005, the day that Katrina decimated the city of New Orleans.

The supported bridge was not the only mark that Katrina left on the New Orleans area. Although the surrounding suburbs of New Orleans such as Kenner and Metairie have experienced some repair, the city itself was still not fully functional as of April of 2006. A makeshift hospital existed in what was the Lord and Taylor store near the Superdome. Debris littered the streets. Businesses were closed with no expected date of when they will re-open. Trailers filled neighborhoods. The smells of death and mold permeated in the air.

Many homes were still unfit to live in. The famous 9<sup>th</sup> ward of New Orleans that was once a lively community consisted of homes smashed together like accordions, overturned cars, and debris. A boat that traveled

both geographic and economic distances sat in the front yard of a home that had no means to support a boat. One of the focal points of the 9<sup>th</sup> ward, the home of Fats Domino, world renowned musician and singer, stood, but was pad locked and marked with “No Trespassing” and “No Bulldozing” signs.

The most subtle, but fixating and chilling signs of Katrina’s presence were coded markings spray painted on houses denoting the date of inspection, the inspector’s initials, and the presence or absence of dead bodies or animals.

On April 12-16, of 2006, I traveled with my church to New Orleans to assist the hurricane victims. The Mission Ministry of New Mercies Christian Church of Lilburn, Georgia took a team of 14 people consisting of 11 women and 3 men to “gut” houses. The team tore out sheet rock, carpet, cabinets, bathtubs, other damaged property and hauled debris from 3 houses. After the work was complete, the team prayed for the survivors and their families.

Though the lives of the New Orleans residents are changed forever, their faith still remains. They attested that their faith in God and savior Jesus Christ will help them to rebuild their lives and the lives of their neighbors.

This trip was very personal for me. New Orleans, my second home, filled with so many fond childhood memories was gone - but not forgotten. As a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana with many family members from New Orleans affected by the hurricane, I wanted to do more than just send money. I wanted to physically make a difference.

The host church, Vineyard Christian Fellowship, of Kenner, Louisiana welcomed, housed and fed us for the duration of the trip. We were welcomed in the true New Orleans style with good food and good times. On Resurrection Sunday, we worshipped together with our new brothers and sisters and returned home tired, but fulfilled.

Since the trip, I wrote an article about the missionary trip to New Orleans for my former employer’s online newsletter, the book ***“How to Help Parents and Kids Get Over the Fear of Math”***, a poem dedicated to the memory of a dearly departed close friend of mine, and a Christian Jazz love song.

Please understand that maneuvering wheel barrows, wielding crow bars, and tearing sheet rock from walls is not my usual way to spend a fun 3 days in New Orleans. My belief is that since I stepped way out of my comfort zone to help others, God gave me a gift by awakening my artistic talents.

In conclusion, everyone should be willing to listen to the spirit of God that lives inside of us and do those things that we would not normally do. There is someone in the world waiting to receive your gifts, talents, services, and experience... Let Go and Let God Have His Way in Your Life!

Sandra Carter  
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<http://www.math1on1.net>



## Awards Breakfast

On Saturday, January 31st the Glad Tidings Missions Ministry hosted an awards breakfast to celebrate the dedication and service of the missionaries who gave of themselves and of their time in order to fulfill the Great Commission.

The following members received awards for their service:

### Haiti:

Larnell Reid

Tenia White

### Jamaica:

Sterling McCollum

### Liberia:

Willa Brewer

Minister Eric Dickerson

Deacon Wayne Ellison

Elder Michael Macauley

Nikki Riley

Minister Anthony Wright

### New Orleans:

Deacon Leroy Lamar

Terry Rather

Denise Smith

Steve Smith

### Tanzania:

Ansley Lemon



**Min. Eric Hill**



**Glad Tidings Missions Awards Breakfast**



**Elder Wayne Tyus (L), Terry Rather (R)**



**Deacon Wayne Ellison (L), Elder Wayne Tyus (R)**



**Willa Brewer (L), Min. Eric Hill (R)**

**GLAD TIDINGS  
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Come Worship With Us:

**Sunday Services:**  
8:00am & 10:30am

**Sunday School:**  
9:30am each Sunday

**Wednesday Bible  
Study:**  
12noon & 7:00pm

**Prayer Service:**  
Saturday 7:30am & 30  
min before each service



**"Go ye therefore and teach all nations..." Matthew 28:19-20**

# March/April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Training starts - Ja- maica Mis- sion	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**We hope you have enjoyed this issue of The Missionary. If you are interested in contributing to the newsletter, the submission deadline is the 15th of the month in order to be included in the next newsletter. All submissions are subject to approval by the Missions Coordinator.**

**You may send your submissions, photos, suggestions, questions, etc to:**

**Min. Eric Hill, Missions Coordinator**

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