

Partnership between Riverside United Church, Ottawa, and Providence Methodist Church, Kingston, Jamaica

Riverside United Church has been in partnership with Providence Methodist Church since 2004. It has been a very interesting and stimulating experience for Riverside, and a beneficial relationship for both churches. **Jamaica Night** is a fundraiser for outreach work in Jamaica. The Home Visitation & Nursing Programme at Providence Church and the Wesley Basic School in Dallas, Jamaica, receive funding from Riverside.

Under the Nursing Programme, home visits are made, medical checks (blood pressure, blood glucose tests, etc.) are done, health fairs are held, assistance is given in paying for prescription medications and diagnostic tests, and occasionally medical equipment is lent. Some supplies such as disposables are provided regularly, and foot care and dressing of wounds are done when needed. Health education and counseling are given to people and to caregivers. A nurse, Althea Townsend, and a few volunteers carry out this much needed work.

Wesley Basic School is in Dallas, Jamaica. Dallas is a small farming community in the hills near Kingston. The community is in a very poor area of rural St. Andrew, and Wesley Basic School is held in the Dallas Methodist Church, Monday to Friday, for 3-5 year olds. The children are cute in their pink

uniforms, and very lively. The school needs assistance in paying the salaries of the teacher, her assistant, and the cook. The funds also help to buy school supplies and to provide lunch money for some needy pupils.

The funds raised in Ottawa are sent to Providence Methodist Church which oversees the work of the Nursing Programme and the Wesley Basic School. If you wish to make a donation to this worthwhile work, please write a cheque payable to Riverside United Church, and indicate on the cheque that the funds are for outreach work in Jamaica. Send to Riverside United Church, 3191 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON, K1V8N8. A receipt for income tax purposes will be sent to you. Many thanks for your interest and generosity.