

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 Mission House Methodist Basic School in Gordon Town, 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.

Mission House Methodist Basic School in Gordon Town, Jamaica is in a rural area in the hills near Kingston. The church and the school are part of the Providence Circuit. In the school there are about 45 boys and girls, 4 teachers and the principal. Five of us visited this school a few years ago. The school is well run and the building is in good condition. There are a lot of poor families in this area.

The funds raised in Ottawa are sent to Providence Methodist Church which oversees the work of the Nursing Programme and the Mission House Methodist 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.