

Andy Dye's Prayer Letter from Grenada September 2011

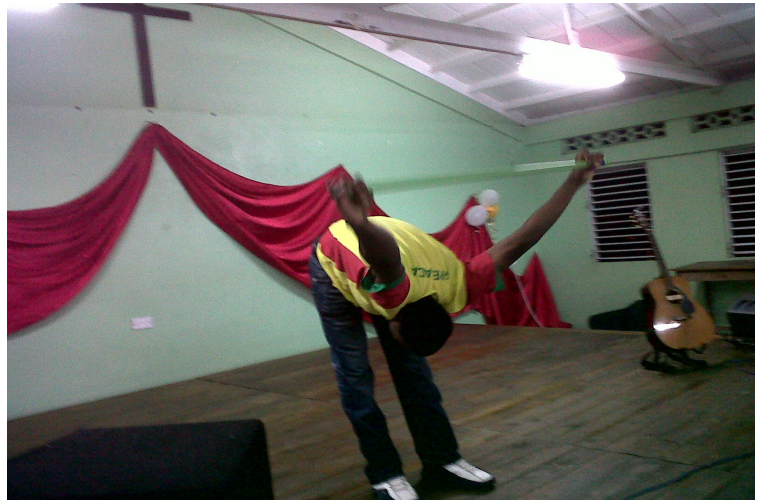
andrewldyeuk@yahoo.co.uk and now also on Twitter!

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Methodist Church Office, Lucas Street, St. Georges, Grenada

Back to school

September for me means back to school, a new church year, lots of family birthdays and lots of meetings. To be honest I would happily try and miss many of the meetings if at all possible! However one of the good things in September is that you get to hear the reports from different groups all over the circuit. Its great to hear of the different things that people are doing to serve Jesus by serving their community. For instance one of the churches are beginning a homework reading club for children in the whole community because they have realised the low level of reading competence among their Sunday school children. There has also been a flourishing of Young Adults groups around the churches with these groups beginning to take a leading role in the worship life of the church.



Play games at a young adult get together.

R.E. Questions

I take some Religious education classes in Wesley College and also in the Grenada Boys Secondary School (GBSS). As part of these sessions this year I decided to start the year with the simple statement: What questions do you have? The different questions I have received I think are a fascinating insight in to what teenagers think about faith, but also a reflection of the spirituality and religious influences on Grenadians. Here is just a small(!) selection:

"How old is Jesus? Which religion is right? **Is there a hell?** Is the devil Gods first son? Where is heaven? If God loves us, why do we continue to hurt him by sinning every day? Is God black or white? I know the Devil is real but I am not sure that God is real, I can't see him, I can't hear him and I can't touch him, explain that? Does God forgive you even if you know what you are doing is wrong? Why don't some people believe in God? Who wrote the bible? How do we know the bible is true? **How do we ask God for things?** Where do demons come from? Why did God make Hell? **How do we know that which day is the real day that Jesus (God) rested?** Why do Methodists eat pig and drink caffeine when the bible also stats that its unclean? Why are there different religions?"



Wesley College Junior Football team, first game of the season, won 3-0!

I don't know, but I think the type of questions from a class of teenagers in the UK would be quite different. They look quite hard so please, please please feel free to write your answers on a postcard and send them to me!

Local Preachers

One of the things that I really enjoy is going to different churches and leading services. It's a wonderful privilege to share with different congregations and experience their support and kindness. I am part of the group of local preachers here, quite a few are young and in the middle of their local preacher training. The system of training here is based on exams that the preachers on trial have to pass. The quality of the local preachers on trial is very good in Grenada, so much so that one of our local preachers, Ria Delves, gained the highest grade in the whole of the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas (MCCA) for her worship and preaching exam. Local preachers form a backbone of regular Sunday worship around the world in Methodist circles, and it's good to be part of a committed team.

Kirani James

I could not finish this letter without mentioning Kirani James, the nineteen year old Grenadian 400m runner who won the gold medal at the recent world athletics championship. Everyone on this small island is so proud that he has put Grenada on the map. Now we are looking forward to the Olympics in London 2012, when Grenada is looking forward to its first Olympic medal being gold!



Science teachers celebrate Kirani's win!

Please pray:

- For the new school year and all of the pupils beginning in new places and all of the staff preparing quality education.
- For the life of the Methodist church in all of its variety. Give strength and health to those working long hours for the kingdom of God.
- For the many families who are finding things difficult financially, those children who come to school without having had breakfast or means to get lunch.

Please feel free to contact me, send me your answers to the questions above and now you can follow me on Twitter, to receive quick updates on my life as a mission partner.

Thanks for reading, God bless you
Andy

'The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.'
1Thess 5:28