



Our Cup Overflows

Luke 6:38 – Give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

Why does God give us blessings?

Believe it or not, for the same reason He allows us to suffer – for the benefit of others. Our lives are not our own for we have been bought with a price – therefore we are to glorify God with all we are and have. The way God often chooses to meet the needs of people is through other people. When someone is struggling with a tragedy, the best encouragers are those who have experienced a similar tragedy. When someone has a specific financial need, God usually provides through another person. So when you are suffering, assume it is God preparing you to minister to someone else in the future who will go through the same suffering. And when you receive an unexpected financial blessing, assume God gave it to you to meet the need of someone else – it's just the way He works.

120 MARRAKECH DRIVE

Thank you, thank you, thank you! You make our hearts sing! The support you have shown us through your notes, enthusiasm, and generosity has literally brought tears to our eyes. Without your partnership, this ministry would not be able to function. With your partnership, God has chosen to bless above and beyond! God has called us as believers to minister and

pour ourselves out as drink offerings. He enables us to do this by pouring into us to the point that we overflow into the lives of those He has called us to minister. You are a huge part of that overflow and for that we are eternally grateful! And God will continue to bless you because of your faithfulness to Him.

Back in March, we stepped out in faith to pursue purchasing a residential property on the same street as TEAMS House in Jamaica for \$200,000 plus closing costs. We knew this was a big ask, but we also knew this was from the Lord – so

we asked – and you responded! We were overwhelmed with the personal buy-in from our board members, our staff, our supporting churches, and our individual ministry partners. We set \$210,000 as the amount we needed to raise by August and by mid-July we were getting close. And then we were informed that it would cost an additional \$15,000 beyond what we were expecting – and your generosity grew to meet the need. It is difficult to express adequately the gratitude we feel and the joy we have in sharing the blessing of this ministry with you.

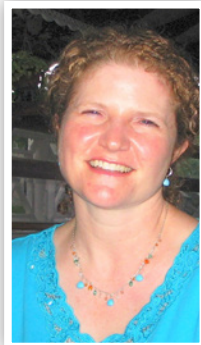
But the blessings do not stop there. The purchase of this new property enables us to add opportunities for you to participate personally in the ministry in Jamaica. With the additional space and the addition of the Kauffmans, we are now able to accommodate a variety of ministry teams ranging from just a few people to large groups. We can accommodate youth groups, families, church groups, and retreats as well as our regular J-Teams and work teams. God is on the move in Jamaica, and we are pleased to provide opportunities for you to join Him and us in this ministry on the ground.

**HE IS ABLE TO DO
EXCEEDING
ABUNDANTLY
above all that we
ASK or THINK**

EPHESIANS 3:20

Following God's Lead

In 2004, Anne Clay joined TEAMS for Medical Missions, enabling her to fulfill her dream of using her training as a pharmacist on the mission field. This dream took several years to come to fruition, but by being faithful to follow the Lord each step of the way, she finally arrived at T4MM. The Lord blessed T4MM through Anne as she provided the expertise needed to help create the J-Team structure we know today. For the past seventeen years she has faithfully served the Lord and the people of Jamaica. In March of 2020 when COVID was picking up steam, Jamaica's Ministry of Health shut down all incoming short-term medical teams. It would be the first time since 2004 that we would have to miss a J-Team. At first we thought COVID would pass quickly allowing us to return to running J-Teams like normal, but it slowly became evident that this pandemic was here to stay for some time. It was during this time of waiting, looking for God's leading, and spending more time serving at our local hospital, that the Lord made it clear to Anne that her time with T4MM had come to a close and He had something new for her. In May of this year, Anne submitted her resignation to the board with our blessing. Anne is now working for Lehigh Valley Hospital as a Consultant Pharmacist for two low-income clinics in Allentown where she is able to use her giftedness and experience to impact those in the Lehigh Valley. If you see Anne, thank her for her seventeen years of faithful service and pray for her as she continues to serve the Lord in this new endeavor.



Medical Coordinator

Under normal circumstances we would have begun a search process for a new medical coordinator upon receiving Anne's resignation – but we are not under normal circumstances. At this point we do not have permission from Jamaica's Ministry of Health to bring medicine or operate medical clinics in Jamaica. Once we receive that permission, we will need to adapt our process to the new protocols and procedures that will undoubtedly come with the reopening to short-term medical teams. Based on how that looks and what that requires, we will then be able to determine what skill set(s) are needed to fill this role. It could be an individual or it could be a team of people. In preparation for this transition, we have contacted a few of our J-Team medical personnel to help us develop a plan to temporarily fill in the gap until we find a new medical coordinator.

COMMUNITY MINISTRY

Due to COVID restrictions, the Jamaican Ministry of Health has not allowed us to bring medical teams to the island since March of 2020. This has greatly hampered our ministry in Jamaica and has forced us to adapt and pivot. Without quarterly J-Teams volunteering to minister in our communities, we needed to shift our focus to personal ministry and to coming alongside and encouraging our Jamaican partners in their ministry to their neighbors – and what a blessing this has become! In this time we have seen a house built, the food distribution program expand, the sports ministry begin, outreach opportunities happen, and relationships grow. God continues to teach us to not ask why things happen, but to simply follow His lead and minister as He directs. We are so excited for what 2022 is going to bring as we now have additional ways for teams from the U.S. to get involved as we resume our J-Team schedule.

SPORTS MINISTRY

This past February, the Kauffmans began using our newly created court for sports ministry to the young people in our community. Mike hosted a number of evenings of basketball for our young men in their 20's which was met with great enthusiasm – and the promise of a growing ministry was born. Arrangements were made for them to play pick-up ball Sunday nights while we were off the island in preparation for a more organized program when we were back on the island that would include times

of basketball instruction infused with spiritual instruction. When we returned to the Island in May, we discovered that Jamaica had instituted a Sunday afternoon curfew due to COVID. Since Sundays were the only evening available for our 20-somethings to play due to work schedules, it looked like the basketball ministry would have to wait until things with COVID cleared up. But to our surprise, a younger crew ages 11-17 started showing up wanting to play – so Mike pivoted, and the ministry continued.

2021 MINISTRY TEAMS

While it is true that we have not been allowed to bring medical teams to the Island, we have not been prevented from hosting other types of teams. The first of these teams was from YWAM in January which we reported on previously. But we have been blessed with three other teams this year as well.

In August, we had two couples, the Sudduths and the Smiths, join our missionary team for a week of ministry on TEAMS property. During the mornings we hosted Bible Blast for children ages 6-10, a form of a backyard Bible club, and in the evenings we hosted a Basketball Clinic for ages 11 and up. With COVID restrictions, we needed to keep our numbers to around 30 at a time, and we knew that might prove difficult – but God provided and

we were able to minister to the community while still abiding by Jamaica's COVID restrictions.

After the week of children's ministry, we held a one-day Disciple-Making Seminar for local

pastors and church leaders taught by Pastor Mike Smith of Restoration Church in Hampton, VA. Pastor Smith also had the opportunity to preach at Ebenezer Community Church on Sunday.

This October, we will be hosting a team for about 10 days to inventory, clean and prep the new house for the Kauffmans and future ministry. Please pray

we can close on the new property by the time our team arrives so we can gain access. If it is not ready, we will focus our time on community ministry.

The purchase of the new property was step one of our ministry expansion plans. Step two involves building and/or renovating on both properties. At present, our Jamaican partners are relocating our water tanks and rerouting our water lines to the other side of TEAMS House to make room for a new storage building. Following the October team we will be hosting back-to-back work teams in November to begin building this storage building for our tools and building supplies. This building will also function as a place to train young people in a variety of skills. Additional projects will include planting garden beds, renovating our outdoor bathroom and shower, finishing the interior of our Caretaker House, installing the rest of our donated solar panels on top of the new storage building, and adding extra tanks to catch rainwater to be used for yardwork. The price tag for step two is estimated to be about \$50,000 to be completed over the next year. If you are interested in contributing toward these projects, please designate your giving to TEAMS House Projects.



2022 Ministry Teams

J-Teams are starting back up!

We are hopeful that 2022 will see a loosening of restrictions and that Jamaica's Ministry of Health will allow us to once again bring medical teams to minister to our communities. In the meantime, we will be resuming our J-Team schedule in 2022 whether we are allowed to provide medical clinics or not. We are continuing to build homes, and if we may not provide medical clinics on a particular J-Team, there are many other avenues for ministry in our immediate community that J-Teams can provide. We would love to have you rejoin us, or join us for the first time! The fields are white unto harvest – pray the Lord of the Harvest to send out workers – and think about making yourself available to be the answer to your own prayer. The teams are first-come, first-served and the cost for 2022 is still \$1,800 per person which includes airfare, ground transportation, insurance, food, and lodging.

The dates for our J-Teams in 2022 are February 5-13, May 7-15, August 6-14, and November 5-13.

Ministry/Work Teams

- A local Bible Church Recon Team (January) – this team of three couples will experience firsthand our Jamaican community, meet our Jamaican partners, participate in local ministry, and create a plan with us to connect the young people of their church to our Jamaican community through yearly short-term mission trips.
- T4MM Board of Directors (Jan 29-Feb 2) – our board will be holding its quarterly board meeting in Jamaica, meeting with our Jamaican ministry partners, participating in local ministry, and praying about the future of T4MM.
- Messiah College Team (May 19-23) – around 30 young people will be traveling to Jamaica on a cultural experience trip and will be spending a few days with us at TEAMS House to experience our little slice of Jamaica, and see how we do ministry.
- Are you, your church or your school interested in scheduling a Ministry/Work team with us? Contact us and let's explore the possibilities together.

THE QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM

TEAMS for MEDICAL MISSIONS

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Vital Signs

OCTOBER 2021



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H E A R T B E A T

by
John Heater

I attended a small Bible College in Maryland that was built on top of several underground springs. One of my favorite spots to go on campus was down by the maintenance building which was situated right over one of the springs. Someone had taken the time to tap that spring to create a constant flowing water fountain of the coldest, sweetest water I had ever tasted. Whenever I made my way to the maintenance building, I always stopped for a drink, and I was never disappointed. What if that someone had not tapped that spring?

The water would still have been cold and sweet — but unavailable. Without that pipe to bring it to the surface, I would not have been able to enjoy the water. All around that maintenance building were pipes lying on the ground, but none of them were providing water. It was only the pipe that was planted in the spring, that made the water accessible.

What kind of pipe are you? Are you planted in the spring of living water, making it accessible to those around you? Or are you lying on the ground, full

of potential, but unconnected and unhelpful. Jesus calls us to be planted in Him, enabling us to be the conduit of His love and life, overflowing into those around us.



Keep lookin' up,

John