

# The Ballinger Family

Church Planting in the islands of St Vincent and the Grenadines

Dear pastors, churches, and friends,

April 12<sup>th</sup> 2022

I pray this letter finds each of you doing well. We are thankful for your faithfulness in the service of the Lord. It has allowed us to continue to serve Him here in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Bequia Bible Baptist Church, along with Gospel Light Baptist Church, has finally been registered with the government here. This will help both churches, and we want to say thank you for praying with us and giving to this need. This month we have seen one young lady saved! We have started to help her with some basic discipleship, and we are looking forward to baptizing her along with several others in the future. Brother Osbourne has been preaching chapter by chapter through the book of Matthew and is continuing his studies at Fundamental Bible Baptist Institute. McKenzie is also enrolled in the Bible Institute. She has also started teaching the ladies bible studies. I have almost finished preaching and teaching through the book of Acts, and the by-laws and constitution of the Church. It is great to see folks learning and growing in the Lord. We continue to see visitors coming out to the church as a result of Gospel tracts and personal invitations. We hope to see many more come to church, but more importantly, we want them to come to know Christ as their personal Saviour.



The restrictions on meetings have finally been lifted and the quarantine period has been dropped to 7 days. So, we have started to make plans for three tent meetings this year! Our first will be here in Bequia in June/July. The other two will be on Union and Canouan, where we have started tract distribution and outreach. Lord willing, we can get permission to hold meetings around August/September on each of those islands. We will be preaching a revival meeting in St. Vincent this month (April). The pastor has been praying about holding a tent meeting in his area where their church is, and around the areas where he has started street preaching with our portable sound system. Please keep us in prayer as we preach, but also pray that God will raise up laborers here.

By the end of the year Gospel Light Baptist Church, and Pastor Mitchell, will begin a building project. They need to tear down the old, wooden building, grade the property, and then begin construction. We have offered to set the tent up for them to use as a temporary church building until they can move into the new building. The church will also be making their own blocks to reduce the cost. They have started to raise the funds to purchase a block machine to aid in the process. The machine will cost about \$1100 and will also be available for future building projects here on the islands. If you would like to help in any way please let us know.

**Every two years we have to apply for our temporary residence visas. This is normally a cost of about \$2000. Our current visas expire at the end of 2022. We've prayed about re-applying, but we believe that it would be the best time to take a furlough. We have a good number of supporting churches that we have not been to in over 7 years and some that we've never even been to before. I really do not want to leave the work here, but it will help us when we return and begin working full-time on Canouan and Union. Our plan is to arrive in the U.S. on November 16th. Our focus will be reporting back to our supporting churches, but there is always a need for new support, especially with the boat ministry and working to plant two new churches. Pastors, if you can have us in during 2023 please reach out to us ASAP. We would love to be able to be a part of your missions conferences or just a single service.**

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In Christ, *David Ballinger*



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