**Good Morning!** 

Yesterday was the first day in over a month that Grenada did not record any covid deaths.

We have had 170 covid deaths in less than 2 months. Grenada reportedly had one of the highest covid death rates in the world during that time (a percentage of deaths in relation to infections). This was due, first of all, to the fact that many people did not even try to go to the hospital until they were very sick and had already advanced beyond most medical intervention options. The other reason is that we have more limited medical resources, in every way, than more developed countries.

The number of people hospitalized is also down to 33 (from a high of over 70).

One of our church members is currently in ICU at the hospital with a covid infection (Sis. Catherine).

After 4 consecutive lockdown weekends, we have had a couple of free movement weekends. We still have daily curfew from 7 p.m. to 4 a.m. Also, all businesses have been allowed to reopen, but hotels, restaurants, bars, hair salons, and barbershops are vaccinated only, meaning that all workers must have proof of vaccination, and any patrons must show proof of vaccination. (People can still get carry out food without proof of vaccination, and guests can stay at the hotel w/o vaccination, but all workers must be vaccinated.) Also, day care centers have been allowed to reopen if all workers are fully vaccinated.

Up to 20 people can be in the church building (worship team, etc.) to broadcast a service, but we are still having virtual services.

Several hundred U.S. medical students returned to the USA, as the university told them that they could continue their studies online for this semester. (Many have chosen to stay in Grenada. We're really not sure how many did leave, but there are a few thousand American students enrolled at the medical and veterinarian school here.)

There is no indication as to when children may be allowed to go back to school.

Reuben has been going in to school 3 mornings each week to meet with parents to supply them with new curriculum for the students to work on at home. He has also been monitoring student progress and giving assignments on Khan Academy (online), where the students are grouped in classes. Teachers are on a schedule to come in to school to mark and record students' work.

Teachers of our younger students have been having daily online classes with their students, but it is no substitute for having the students in school.

Many school children in Grenada are receiving no instruction because they live in homes without internet access or without access to a device for the student to do any learning online. (This especially affects students in the more rural areas who attend government (public) schools.)

So we are hoping that we will have a way to get students back in school before too much longer.

In Grenada,

**Reuben & Susan Mains**