



Ganson Street Baptist Church <church@gansonstreet.org>

Hurricane Beryl

2 messages

Reuben Mains <mains@spiceisle.com>

Tue, Jul 2, 2024 at 3:39 AM

Good Morning!

The storm has passed, and is now out in the Caribbean.

The eye passed just north of Carriacou. It followed the boundary between Grenada, which includes Carriacou, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines to the north. Carriacou was hard hit. Pictures we have seen looked like the kind of destruction we had after Ivan. Many roofs are gone. The trees are stripped of all their leaves. We haven't heard much about the north of Grenada yet, where the campground is, but it should have been pretty hard hit, as well.

Since we are in the south of the island, we were about 35 miles from the eye of the storm. That means we were just outside the hurricane strength winds. What we experienced was like a bad tropical depression, or a mild tropical storm. (A depression is the category just below storm - it becomes a storm at 45 mph.) We had heavy rain and wind gusts. Some branches were broken off trees, but we haven't seen any real damage around us. (We haven't been out yet.)

We played a couple of games of Scrabble with Stephen during the storm.

The water was never really off. We do have a large water tank which could have kept us going for several days. (After Ivan, we had no water for 17 days, because the water main that served us had been broken. We also had no tank water, because debris from the storm had broken our pipe from the tank to the house.)

The electricity was off for about 12 hours yesterday, coming back on about 10:45 p.m. We were using candles. (During Ivan, the electricity had been cut off 8 hours before the storm arrived, and then we were without electricity for 3 1/2 months, since the whole electrical grid had been destroyed. We couldn't even leave the house for about 5 days because so many poles with the electrical wires had been broken and were blocking the roads, along with a number of landslides which created roadblocks.)

I used the comparison with Ivan to underscore how relieved we were that we did not get hit harder this time. We were prepared for something much worse than we got. There is another depression heading toward the islands, but this one will pass further north of us - maybe Dominica, where we lived in the 80's - and is not expected to become as strong as Beryl.

It has been announced that only essential workers are to be working today, and there is an island-wide curfew in effect. (They want people to stay home so they can assess damage and start cleanup efforts. It is likely that there are landslides and much greater damage in the north of the island.)

The airport was supposed to reopen today. It was closed all day yesterday.

Our graduation, which was originally scheduled for today, had been postponed. We may see if we can do it on Thursday. (The 4th is not a holiday here.)

Thank you for praying! While we are relieved and safe, we are thinking of those in Carriacou and Petite Martinique (the other populated Grenadine island belonging to Grenada), as well as the north part of Grenada and the south part of St. Vincent, which includes Kingstown, the capital, as

well as their airport. We know many will have lost their roof, or suffered other loss or damage that will take time from which to recover.

In Grenada,
Reuben & Susan Mains

Ganson Street Baptist Church <church@gansonstreet.org>

Tue, Jul 23, 2024 at 10:18 AM

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