



TONY AND NADINE PROUDLY HOLDING SCHOOL AWARD CERTIFICATE FOR SIENNA

# Pipers Prayer News

## June 2019

**June has been a month of intense school and personal activities.** Florence is now a graduate and is looking towards 6<sup>th</sup> Form in September. Sienna completed her end of term exams with tonsillitis, and is now recovered. We also celebrated with Florence in her Christian baptism and graduation ball.

Mission-wise we are still reeling from the speed of the last two years, and conscious of God's goodness, protection and provision to us as a family. As residents here we have seen the challenges of being Jamaican and living in Jamaica first hand. The social and economic constraints are real and persistent. Poverty and crime are built in to the fabric of life here and are acting to resist all attempts at change. There are many who, like us, work towards change, but see little fruit. Such is the reality that sets in as we reflect on our time here so far. Whilst we are compelled by the Lord to engage in mission, we are seeing the resistance to change. There are great spiritual battles that we are confronted with and are more conscious of.



brought to justice. These are some of the realities of life and ministry in Jamaica.

As we look to the next season of our life and ministry, we are seeking the Lord for more specific direction and are now praying about starting our own mission organisation, which will also support our work with OSJ. Our vision is to improve the lives of those in volatile communities in Jamaica and elsewhere through both social and evangelical interventions in partnership with other mission agencies.

**News from India** has seen us providing

mentoring support to Ramesh with his own challenges. Ramesh had a small team which he had to release due to lack of funds. Such a decision has meant that his work in **Lucknow** among widows and orphans has stalled whilst he waits for funding to continue the work among these needy groups. Ramesh would like to start a business to support his ministry and has presented a business plan. If you would like to help Ramesh start a business to support his ministry, please CONTACT US on WhatsApp 0789 068 6524 | email [anthony.piper2@btinternet.com](mailto:anthony.piper2@btinternet.com) . Please send your **DONATIONS (OSJ UK)** to 20-08-64 20625175 marking your gift appropriately.

The weeks up to Pentecost (9 June) saw much prayer focus across the churches in Jamaica. The increased incidence of crime has brought about some level of unity in churches with many coming together to strategise for effective intervention. In May OSJ hosted a Community Transformation symposium with the theme "**Churches Taking Responsibility for their Communities**". It is now critical for the church to unite to play a leading role in communities if crime is to be tackled effectively.

Some of the ways we support those affected by crime include stopping to pray with a local school in a volatile community as the chances of pupils being killed become more real and the Head Teacher was moved to stop for extended prayer. Every student living in an inner-city community in Kingston will have been exposed to some form of traumatic event be it murder of parent or other family member, shootings, sexual and physical abuse, domestic violence, neglect or incarceration of parent(s). Tony has visited one mother who lost her sixteen year old son to gunshot under suspicious circumstances. There is also little hope of the perpetrators being



Florence – dressed for graduation ball