



# CARIBBEAN RADIO LIGHTHOUSE

*Send out thy Light and thy Truth* Psalm 43:3

May 2020

Hello from Antigua! When I sent our prior prayer letter at the end of January, I certainly did not anticipate all that is going on in the world today! If you remember, my wife and I were preparing to go on a 3-month furlough, March through May, and we and the Lighthouse staff had been preparing for our absence from Antigua. We did leave for furlough and flew to the States on February 27th. We had eight wonderful meetings in Arizona, California, and Illinois. As you know, in mid-March the number of confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in the States multiplied quickly. Many churches began canceling their services, and we became aware that if we kept traveling, we could be the likely persons to spread the virus. We decided that our time would be better spent returning to Antigua and continuing our regular ministry at Caribbean Radio Lighthouse, and so we returned on March 25th.

On the same date we returned, Antigua declared a State of Emergency, and on April 2nd a mandatory 24-hour curfew was put into effect. Media houses are considered essential services, allowing the Caribbean Radio Lighthouse staff to work daily to continue to spread the Gospel to the Caribbean islands via radio!

A few things have changed around the radio station. At the beginning of each day, I spend about an hour disinfecting everything we would touch at the radio station facilities: broadcast audio consoles, microphones, computers, etc. During staff prayer, we no longer meet around one big table in the kitchen, but instead we each sit in our own office or cubicle and just pray a bit louder! Two of our staff ladies, who usually ride the public bus to work, were able to take home our old, previously decommissioned computers, allowing them to work from home every other day, taking their projects back and forth to CRL on a memory stick. On the days they come to work, my wife, Renee, picks them up and drops them off at home, a two-hour trip on those days.

Internet in Antigua is expensive and often slow, and so many homes do not have easy access, and our churches are much less likely to stream a service. CRL has become the sole source of Biblical teaching for many of our listeners confined at home. Soon after the quarantine began, I was messaged by a Christian layman, who asked if we would air a recording for his church members, so that he could stay connected. During the last several weeks, we focused our 90-minute call in program on Dealing with Anxiety and Loneliness, and the entire program has been filled with questions from listeners in regards to these topics and the virus as it relates to God's omnipotence and end times.

We have always aired public service announcements as provided by the government, as long as they are not political in nature. This pandemic has forced an unusual cooperation of the news stations, and CRL has been able to join the COVID-19 press conferences virtually and air them live for our listeners. Many of our listeners and even government officials have thanked CRL for their role. We received a message from an individual watching the press conference, which said she noticed the demeanor of our representative was cool and calm, and so she looked for CRL and will listen online! We are doing our best not only to keep listeners updated, but also to find programs that assure them not to fear but to have faith in God's will and plans.

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Listen Online: [www.radiolighthouse.org](http://www.radiolighthouse.org)



To date (May 4), Antigua only has 25 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 3 related deaths and is still under a 24-hour curfew. Please pray for the safety of our staff, as we continue to spread the Gospel 24/7 to the Caribbean islands! Please pray that we will continue to find Biblical programming and new ways to encourage our listeners in this difficult time. Please pray that our financial support will not be affected by the churches who are not able to meet or individuals whose jobs have been affected. And please continue to pray for additional personnel to help with the technical needs at CRL!

For the Lighthouse Staff,  
Nathan P. Owens

Check out the two videos we added to YouTube: "[CRL April 2020 Furlough Update](#)" is an update similar to what we would have shared at churches this Spring Furlough. And "[CRL April 2020 COVID Update](#)" shares some of the same updates given in this letter. Please feel free to share or use either of these videos with your congregations.

#### **Addition for Nathan & Renee Owens' Personal Prayer Letter:**

Thank you to the many that were praying for our furlough travels and then our return to Antigua. We can clearly see the Lord's leading in all that has transpired since our return to Antigua. We were actually scheduled to fly to Antigua on March 26th, but on March 24th we were told that our flight had been cancelled. We were quickly able to change our Antigua flight to the next day, March 25th! After arriving and settling in Antigua, we learned that all the flights arriving on March 26th and following would be taken straight from the airport to a mandatory government quarantine facility for two weeks! We were so glad to be home! Even all the preparations of purchasing supplies and preparing bills to be paid for the 3 months we were to be on furlough has been so helpful during this 24-hour curfew!

As a precaution, we planned to self-quarantine for two weeks after our arrival. Last year, we were making plans with a construction team to help replace the rotting, wooden stairs leading up to our home, and we purchased the necessary materials. Since we don't foresee any teams coming to Antigua this year, we decided to use part of this self-quarantine time to work on this project ourselves. What a job! As we were needed more and more at CRL, this project has been stop-and-go, but we've finished about two-thirds of the project. Renee is happy that she doesn't have to climb a ladder any more to get in and out of the house!

Thank you to those who have messaged to ask about us! We're just very grateful to be home and active in the ministry here in Antigua!

Nathan & Renee Owens  
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