



CARIBBEAN RADIO LIGHTHOUSE

Send out thy Light and thy Truth Psalm 43:3

August 2020

Hello from everyone at the Caribbean Radio Lighthouse on Antigua! When I last wrote at the beginning of May, Antigua was under a mandatory 24-hour curfew, but our radio station staff was still able to work since radio is considered an essential service. Praise the Lord, our staff has remained healthy, and we have been able to broadcast the Gospel 24/7 to the Caribbean islands!

Little by little, parts of the curfew in Antigua have been lifted. We are now under a 6-hour curfew during the night hours. Masks are required and physical distancing too. Our churches were able to start meeting at the beginning of June with several regulations. The airport also opened in June, and the government is still adjusting regulations for tourists and others who arrive. To date (Aug 16), Antigua has confirmed 25 non-imported COVID-19 cases and 68 imported cases. CRL continues to take part in the almost weekly press conferences to keep our listeners up to date with the situation in Antigua, curfew updates, and even protocols for churches and schools to reopen.

The government utility company reduced electricity bills island-wide in an attempt to help during this difficult economic time. This has saved CRL \$200-\$300 each month! Antigua banks and companies have also been working to make direct deposits and online payments easier. This has been especially helpful with our monthly payroll taxes!

Another big answer to prayer is that CRL finally received its Certificate of Good Standing from the government of Antigua! This process took over 20 years and several different lawyers! The certificate indicates that all the company paperwork required by the government has been satisfied and allows us to do business in Antigua legally. We can now move forward with applying for renewal of the land leases where our towers are located and even apply for a second FM frequency so that our English and Spanish programming can be on different frequencies. Thank you to those who have prayed for this for many years!

Now we're preparing for hurricane season. We noticed that the computer component of the transfer switch, which automatically switches our power from government electricity to generator at our AM tower, has begun to fail. We had to order another transfer switch for \$4,288, and we're praying that we will receive it and be able to install it before any storms come this season. Please pray for protection during this hurricane season and the funds for this project.

Normally, summer is our mission team season, but with COVID-19, all of our 2020 teams were cancelled. This gave me some time to research a problem that we've had for over a decade with occasional interference on our FM STLs (studio to transmitter links, which send our signal from the studio to our FM tower site). Especially since we've been short staffed, I find that these issues demand a lot of my time. After working with the manufacturer's engineers and several attempts to adjust, relocate, and even raise our antennas, we believe we discovered the problems and have come up with a solution to give our listeners a clean and reliable broadcast. To this end, we need to raise \$10,000 to change our STL frequency and replace several pieces of failing equipment that are no longer serviceable.



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I'd like to share some listener feedback we received over the past few months:

● *One lady contacted CRL to say that one of our programs, which was running a series on "Life in Chaos," was a big help to her, and she requested copies of the episodes to listen to again.*

● *A young man in a shop noticed one of our staff members wearing her CRL polo and remarked that CRL was his favorite radio station! Another cashier at a store told me that CRL is her comfort when she's home on Saturdays.*

● *A mother sent a video to our live call-in program, which her son had sent her involving the Word of Faith movement. She encouraged her son to listen to the program to hear the pastor's response to the video. He did listen and said that the program was good and he would tune in next week and that he would have to start studying the Bible more for himself, because a lot of nonsense is going around!*

● *One of our Antiguan broadcasters let us know that he was counselling two individuals which stemmed from listeners to his program on CRL. He later messaged again to tell us that one of the individuals he was counselling gave her life to the Lord!*

CRL is being used in hearts and lives! And we need your help to stay on the air and give a good quality broadcast to our listeners in the Eastern Caribbean and those online. Would you please consider helping with the equipment needs previously mentioned? Gifts can be sent to our mission board, BIMl Account #243.

July marked one year since the Kirklands retired from Antigua, and CRL is still in need of someone to come help with the computer and technical needs of the radio station. Please pray for the Lord to lead someone to help us and for strength to those who are carrying extra duties.

For the Lighthouse Staff,
Nathan P. Owens

Addition for Nathan & Renee Owens' Personal Prayer Letter:

We're still very grateful to have made it home to Antigua, where we can continue our ministries at the radio station and local church and school. We finished building the stairs to our home! We helped to put into place the procedures for our church to begin meeting again while following protocols (installing a sink, distancing chairs, posting signs, building an offering box, etc.). Now, just like in the States, the government is trying to decide protocols for schools reopening, and we're trying to help our Christian primary school to prepare and implement these regulations. Please pray as students are scheduled to return to school September 7th.

While Nathan has also been spending a lot of time on the antenna project [CRL newsletter], Renee has been working on a quality control project at CRL. The radio station's automation system had several glitches, and we realized the cause of these glitches was due to many files having unacceptable characteristics for our software. Renee has been going through each music and audio file to correct these errors, and we're having fewer and fewer glitches.

At the beginning of May, Nathan's grandmother, Aloha Moore, passed away. She was 97-years old and a believer. The last time we saw her in April 2018, she said, "If I don't see you next time, I'll see you in heaven!" We're grateful for her life and testimony! Please pray for the family as they plan a funeral and family reunion sometime later this year as the family is spread throughout the US.

Nathan is becoming a "celebrity" here in Antigua. Frequently, when we're in a store, someone will see or even hear Nathan's voice and then stop to ask him if he's Nathan Owens of Radio Lighthouse who is on the press conferences! Of course, that's not our intention, but we're glad that CRL is getting free advertisement in this way and can keep our listeners up to date.

Thank you for your continued prayers for us and our ministry at the Caribbean Radio Lighthouse!

Nathan & Renee Owens
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