

NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

11 October 2023

Mesoamerica Region



Jamaica

Jamaica was one of the islands discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1494 and was settled by the Spanish until the 16th century. In 1655, the British seized the island to establish a plantation economy there. With the abolition of slavery in 1834, an estimated 250,000 slaves were freed. In 1958, Jamaica increased its independence from Britain, but joined other British Caribbean colonies in forming the Federation of the West Indies. In 1962, Jamaica withdrew from this Federation to gain full independence. The Church of the Nazarene officially established work in Jamaica in 1966. It is estimated that over 45% of the population in Jamaica is under the age of 25; and because there is such a large youth population, children and youth are a primary focus for the churches in Jamaica.



3,354 Members



34 Fully Organized
Churches



12 District Licensed
and 19 Ordained
Ministers on 2 Districts



PRAYER

- Pray for a revival in our churches through a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church.
- Pray for more laborers in the vineyard who are totally surrendered to God and with a zeal for evangelism.
- Pray that many more souls will be won to Christ as we continue to work together and obey the guidance of the Holy Spirit, through our evangelism efforts.



PRAISE

- Give thanks for the salvation of the twenty-five children, and their continued growth in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- Praise God that relationships are being built, and for the five persons who have come to Christ as a result of meeting the physical needs of a local community.



In keeping with the Great Commission and the mission of the Church of the Nazarene, Jamaica continues to make concerted efforts to win souls for the Kingdom of God through evangelism. Our approach has been to train our membership on evangelism and follow this training by providing opportunities to practice and apply learning at the local church level.

Training began in May 2023, with a week of prayer and fasting to seek the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in our efforts at evangelism. Led by the evangelism board, this was followed by several days of teaching theories of evangelism, focused on the “what, why, when, and how of evangelism.”

Buoyed by the newly acquired learning and a fresh zeal for winning souls for the Kingdom, churches have conducted outreach through crusades. Varied approaches are being used, including tract distribution in casual walks through communities, prayer walks focused on the needs of communities, and one-to-one witnessing in nearby communities.

Needs in the communities where active evangelism occurs cannot be overlooked. One church has embarked on a “Saturday Soup and Praise” initiative, where soup is served and praise through personal testimonies is shared. Strong relationships are being built with families, and children from the community are attending children’s church. Soup, and the distribution of other food items, is also taken to those who are unable to leave their homes for physical reasons. Five persons have accepted Christ through these efforts.



Preparing soup for a “Saturday Soup and Praise” day.

There is a strong emphasis on bringing children to Christ; Sunday school teachers have been trained specifically to evangelize children, and teachers help children to see that they are evangelists themselves. Through children's fun days, 25 children have been saved.



A children's and youth fun day.

Jamaica is a sending nation. Two persons have accepted the call to go to Abaco, Bahamas through Mission Mobilization in August 2023. Through a cake sale and “Here I Am Send Me” Concert, funds were raised to offset traveling expenses for their trip. The families for the two members were impacted positively by the efforts made by the church to raise the funds, and church members were revitalized from the challenge presented in giving to the Lord’s work. Carlos Gordon, from Jamaica, is a global deployed missionary for the Church of the Nazarene in Africa, serving as the regional finance coordinator.



Praying for those being sent to the Bahamas.

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to missions on the Mesoamerica Region? For more information, click [here](#).



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CHURCH OF THE
NAZARENE