



## HOME AWAY FROM HOME

“Guyana me home”; no, Hobo Hill me home...

Upon arrival at the Broomes Airport, we were greeted with warm smiles and greetings. It seemed we had never left; saying our goodbyes nearly 15 months ago. It was so heart-warming to hear friends welcome us back with open arms. Soon after our joyful arrival the evening came and with it the challenges of living in the interior became all too apparent. The township generator broke hence, no power. Our water pump stopped working and the handle on the PVC valve dry rotted and broke; so sadly no access to running water or power. Chuckling at the reality of our jungle living conditions, we flipped the proverbial switch in our heads that requires ingenuity and patience. We were uncomfortable but happy. God is good we praised!

Within three days we had current and running water. We became engrossed with moving all the project “stuff”



from our rented house in Mabaruma township to the base mission house. The landlord was totally renovating the small house after AWA had rented it for over twelve years.

Sabbath is always a high day, busy and full. We were back to our old jungle home as if we never had left. Leaving again in a few weeks’ time would be hard...



## A CHRISTMAS WEDDING

What a privilege to be included as a special member of a large family! After attending church at the AWA Center for several months, Jennifer decided on baptism; however, she was living with Derwin for 13 years and they have three children together. So, they both decided to do the right thing and marry on Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The couple both have large families, and it was a privilege to be one of two couples that were invited to the wedding who were not family members. We were humbled by the honor the two-family groups afforded us throughout the festivities as we tried to be incognito. Jesus’ parable found in Luke 14:8-10 came to mind. The night of the wedding, the bride and groom visited our AWA living quarters and personally thanked us for coming to their special event. The following day, their daughter brought us a piece of the wedding cake. Unbeknown to us, (but we were told later by another family member) because their family was so large, only special people got to have a piece of the cake—a delicious Guyanese black cake. Guyanese black cake is a rich, dense, and moist cake. It is made with soaked fruits and a dark sugar caramel gives it its signature black color. It is traditionally made at Christmas and for weddings.

Mission work has its share of challenges, but the rewards abound much more. To God be the glory!


## WEDDING GIFTS

One of the provisions Sister Caroline shipped from England for the people of the interior was a 5-liter sunflower oil container. The oil became a small dilemma: who to share it with since there were so many families. Upon much thought and prayer, the perfect recipients became the newlyweds.

Oil in the Bible represents the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit as indicated in Galatians 5:22-23

are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and temperance -- attributes for a good healthy marriage. Thus, during the wedding feast, while presenting the gift of sunflower oil to the couple, we were impressed to share with them and all attendees the parable of the Ten Virgins found in Matthew 25:1-13. We tied the significance of having enough Oil (Holy Spirit) in our lives and the importance of acquiring the gifts of the Holy Spirit. As Jennifer and Derwin keep God at the center of their marriage may they be blessed abundantly. Please join us as we lift them up in prayer.

**Scripture Theme for 2021**  
**“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.”**  
 —Acts 3:19

 **PRAYER REQUEST & PROJECT NEEDS:**  
**A reliable project manager and committed pilots that sense a calling to serve in these unparalleled times.**