



# St. Augustine Mutual Mission

*Hearts and Hands Across the Sea*

Mutual Mission Report  
February 4, 2017

In January to begin our year of Mutual Missions work, we sent a team of over 30 medical personnel to Camp Hope which is owned by the Moravian Church in the Parrish of Westmoreland, Jamaica. There we set up a temporary "Family Practice Clinic" with practitioners that included doctors, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, dental technicians, and an optometrist. In the four and one-half days that we were there we had over 900 patient contacts. We see patients that have bad dental hygiene and no teeth. The medical team sees patients with multiple complaints and such disease states as hypertension, diabetes, other cardiac problems and structural diseases. The optometry team is able to give glasses to persons that have not been able to read. Each of the team members pay their own way for this trip that cost \$1200 or they may be given scholarships by the churches that they attend.

During the same week, our "BuildingTeam"--3 men from our Presbytery--undertook the work to build an addition to a small school in high in the mountains at Kilmarnoc, so that the 40 students of that school could have a decent restroom facility. Before this, both teachers and students had used a pit toilet.

In March, a group of Jamaican high school counselors will travel to Gainesville, where they will learn how to deal with bullying, violence and family issues in their schools and homes.

Each year the SAMM Executive Members and the JEMM Executive Members meet in either Kingston or a locale in the Presbytery to plan our next year's activities. This year the Presbytery of St. Augustine will be hosting our JEMM Partners April 28-May 1. We will be holding our joint planning meeting with SAMM and JEMM at First Presbyterian Church Fernandina Beach. A dinner on Saturday evening will be open to those with an interest in learning more of the work being done through this partnership. More information will be posted on our website [www.mutualmission.org](http://www.mutualmission.org). Sunday morning speakers may be available, if congregations are interested.

In July, youth from both churches in our Presbytery and our partner churches in Jamaica will join together for two weeks of learning and sharing together. The first week they will be together in Jamaica doing both fun and mission projects, while learning the Jamaican culture. The group will then fly to Jacksonville as a team, where they will experience the culture of North Florida, again spending time both working and playing together. Young people have had life changing experiences from this experience and have made life-long friendships as well. Applications for youth are available at [www.mutualmission.org](http://www.mutualmission.org). Two adult leaders from JEMM and two from SAMM are the chaperones for the group. We need adult volunteers willing to help with this task. If you are interested, please contact Diane St. John at [diane.stjohn@gmail.com](mailto:diane.stjohn@gmail.com) for more information.

The Mutual Missions Committee asks for your help in getting the word out about the work of Mutual Missions back to your congregation. We solicit your prayers as we seek ways to work and serve others in this Mission. If you personally would like to become involved in the Mutual Missions Committee or any of the other activities that we have mentioned please do not hesitate to contact either Diane Watkins or Bob Bell. Our email addresses and telephone numbers are on the Mutual Missions .org website.