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## WIVH Starts New Year Back On the Air

After three months of being off the air due to the damaging effects of Hurricane Maria, WIVH was finally able to get back on the air on New Year's Day. Three previous attempts had failed, although each attempt brought us closer. The first two attempts revealed issues that took a while to deal with, including needing to install a new cable that runs from the transmitter, up the leg of the tower, and to the antenna.

The 150 mile an hour winds from Hurricane Maria had stressed the cable, its bindings, and the connectors. Water apparently seeped into the cable, and it has now been replaced entirely, although the process took a long time. Our third attempt followed replacing the cable and had us on the air for several hours before the power supply on the transmitter failed. As soon as we were able to get a new one shipped and installed, we were back on the air!

days earlier. While she was glad for generators, she said there's nothing like having a steady source of power!



*Connect Live!* hosts Dan Close and Tim Madeira were thrilled to talk with the winner on January 3. Just two days after getting WIVH back on the air, Augustina Joseph from Kingshill was the winner on *Connect Live!* She shared about the struggles of daily life since the hurricanes in September. Augustina had just received power four

Thankfully, as Christians we have a steady source of power as well to help us get through the tough times. Augustina mentioned how she praised the Lord for bringing her safely through Hurricanes Irma and Maria, and she bubbled over with joy as spoke of how encouraging it was to once again have the Voice of Hope that WIVH provides to the USVI.

Power continues to be restored throughout the islands, and the Virgin Islands Power and Water Authority (WAPA) says they are making the final push toward complete restoration of power. According to WAPA, restoration levels now stand at 92% on St. Croix, 99% on St. John, and 91% on St. Thomas.

A recent press release from the office of Governor Kenneth Mapp extended the state of the emergency that was declared on September 5, 2017 according to the proclamation *"in order to protect the lives and property of the residents of the territory."* The state of emergency was extended until February 2 unless it is lifted by order of the Governor before then, or extended if necessary.

# FROM US

*to you*



To the WIVH listening family,

Happy New Year! New challenges, new ideas, and new opportunities... at least that's the way I look at it! I hope you do too, because the New Year always has the promise of new hopes and dreams—new ways that God can use YOU if you make yourself available to Him, even if you felt “spent” at the end of 2017. **It brings to mind one of my favorite passages from Isaiah 40:31, “but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength,” (ESV).**

For the Carribean, last year was especially challenging, and others struggled too. I have a friend who said this:

*“I started the year with no cancer, then got cancer, now at the end of the year I have no cancer again. It was a year of superlatives. I've never hurt so much in my life, I've never come so close to death in my life, I've never felt prayer for me so much in my life, I've never learned so much in my life, and I've never felt the love of my God, my family, and friends like you in my life so much this year!”*

A year of superlatives? **Good or bad, we can know God has promised that He is with us always, as we hope in Him.**

As we enter the New Year, we are asking God for renewed strength as we take on the challenge of rebuilding the ministry of WIVH in the Virgin Islands. **We look forward to starting 2018 strong!**

Finding hope in God,

*Tim + Heather*

Tim & Heather Madeira

## Newsletter Gets a New Look!

The look of *The Voice* may be a little different, but the message will never change; sharing the hope, encouragement, and salvation that can only be found in the gospel. Romans 1:16 says, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes...” At WIVH we know that God will be honored as we continue to broadcast that message.

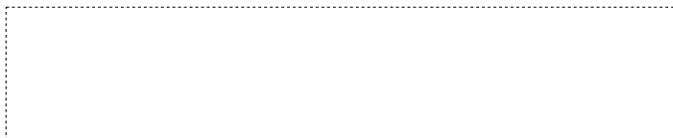
You may have noticed some differences in our program schedule as well. Those changes have been made necessary because of damage to our satellite dish as a result of the hurricane, which required us to modify our method of receiving our programs. Most of the same programs continue to be heard on WIVH, but the timing may be different. If you would like to receive an updated program guide, call us at 800-245-3688, or you can find an updated (and adjusted for Atlantic Standard Time) schedule on our website, [wivh.org](http://wivh.org) or email us at [wivh@wivh.org](mailto:wivh@wivh.org) and request a printed copy.

## Prayer & Praise

**PRAY:** *For government leaders as they guide the territories through the troubled waters that follow the hurricane.*

**PRAISE:** *For the opportunity to continue to be the Voice of Hope in the Virgin Islands.*

**PRAY:** *For those who suffered loss and are trying to put their lives back together.*



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