

**the
Voice**



WIVH

89.9 FM



The Voice of Hope in the Virgin Islands

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Praising the Lord for 25 Years!



The future WIVH studios after Hurricane Hugo

WIVH is celebrating this month...25 years! What follows is a brief recap of the humble beginnings of the Virgin Islands Voice of Hope:

Burl Updyke, founder and General Manager of WRGN, a small Christian radio station in Pennsylvania, stepped into News Director Tim Madeira's office. He laid out a map of the US Virgin Islands and pointed to the island of St. Croix and proclaimed, "Here. Here is where we are going to build a Christian radio station!" After building a radio station in his hometown and expanding the radio ministry, Burl was drawn to the idea of building a Christian radio station in an area that did not have one of its own. After considering several other locations, it appeared St. Croix would be the chosen location.

He and his wife, Shirley, had traveled to St. Croix two months after Hurricane Hugo had devastated the island. They were able to locate a house that had a separate apartment that would be ideal for a radio station. The problem? The building had no roof! The property was purchased and renovated on many subsequent trips. In 1991, members of Tim Madeira's youth group traveled to St. Croix where they were able to do work at both the

future WIVH studios as well as the YWAM base in Sunny Isle.

It would take two more years of multiple trips, application process with the FCC and local governments, as well as fundraisers for broadcast equipment before WIVH would officially go on the air on July 18, 1993. The first operators of WIVH were Mike and Linda Richards from Florida. They were the first in a series of missionary operators for WIVH. We have been very thankful over the years for the individuals and couples who have served at WIVH, including the most recent operators, the Bowman family.

In August of 2017, just 2 weeks before Hurricanes Irma and Maria delivered devastation to the island, Burl & Shirley Updyke transferred the ministry of WIVH to Good News for Life, under the direction of Tim and Heather Madeira, current operators of WRGN in Northeastern PA. In spite of those challenges, they are committed to the continuation of WIVH on the island of St. Croix and the entire US Virgin Islands.



WIVH founder Burl Updyke and missionary operator Mike Richards, circa 1994 in front of the WIVH studios

FROM US

to you



To the WIVH family,

The unexpected. It happens to all of us and it takes us by surprise; catches us off guard, unprepared...that's why we call it unexpected! Sometimes it can be good, but more often than not, we view the unexpected as something bad. **If we understand—and even expect—the unexpected, why do we often react to it so poorly?**

I pondered this recently after a conversation with a friend when he relayed his travel trials after being stuck in an airport for nearly 24 hours. He described the experience in detail, right down to his one hour of sleep on the airport floor using his stinky shoes as a pillow! **He said people around him were even being removed by security as they caused disturbances in their frustration over the situation.**

He also told me he had determined he was going to make the best of a bad situation. He complimented the harried customer service representatives from the airline on the work they were doing. He ultimately came home exhausted, but not overwhelmed by the situation.

Jesus led by example, and 1 Peter 2:23 describes it this way: ***When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.*** One of our goals at WIVH is to encourage you to trust in God—for salvation, and for the day to day! Tune in and share the ministry of WIVH with those you come in contact with!

Trusting God,

Tim + Heather

Tim & Heather Madeira

God Speaks, Are We Listening?

There is no doubt that God has spoken during the past hurricane season. The hurricanes were not mere acts of nature, but came by the command of God and are under His control. He speaks through them.

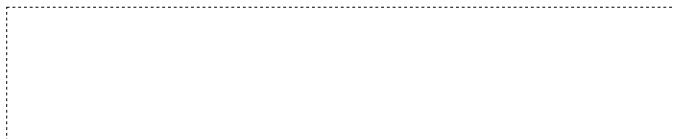


When he speaks to us through creation, he reminds us that he is the Almighty Creator and has nothing to prove to us. He does all things according to his good purposes. No one and nothing can stand or withstand His power. He can dash anything to pieces. Did he not do it to buildings you never expected? However, God is not just mighty in destroying, but also mighty in delivering. He finds no delight in seeing us in pain. He pities our fallenness and brokenness and does not willingly afflict us, showing us mercy.

Whenever God speaks, we ought to do two things—listen and obey. God has spoken, and still speaks now, calling on us to reset our pleasures. This is a time to **reset** our lives and align them with God and his ways; a time to **remove** the debris and rubbish from our lives. Then there must be a **reordering** of our lives to ensure that our priorities and plans fit into God's agenda. This includes a **repairing** of the damaged and broken, a **recovering** of valuable things that might have been displaced during the storm, and a **restoring** and **rebuilding** of things to the way they ought to be—perhaps even better than the way they were before.

God wants a **returning** of our lives back to the place of His holy beauty and says, "today if you will hear my voice, harden not your heart!"

~ edited from an article by Pastor Beltane Harrigan, Way of The Cross Baptist Church, Kingshill.



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