



FALL | 2013

Why Are You Caring for these Orphans?

By Ken Bever

"Why are you caring for these orphans?" — that was the question that was asked of me by three Haitian neighbors who stopped by our Cazeau Christian Orphanage. What was our motivation to build a dormitory, a kitchen, and a dining hall for 72 orphaned children? Why provide a generator and battery backup inverter system to supply them with 24-hour electricity? Why send an English tutor each week to help them gain fluency in the language? Why provide loving caretakers to watch over them and spiritually guide them? Why prepare three meals a day, give them clean water, provide medical/dental/vision care, and give them an excellent education?

I realized that it just didn't make much sense to our visitors why people would

These twins at the Cazeau Christian Orphanage — Faneika and Djinika — lost both of their parents in the January 2010 earthquake



really care about children they were not related to. For many in Haitian society, orphaned children are seen as the "lowest rung" on the "Who's Important?" ladder. They often end up in homes where they are treated as child slaves, called *restaveks*, and often forced to do all the dirty jobs in the home, given only scraps to eat, and made to sleep on the floor.

I told these neighbors that supporters and the members of the local Cazeau church of Christ believe that God created each one of the children with a precious, eternal soul, and that each child has immense value in His sight. I told them that God's Son Jesus taught us that when we take care of these little children in His name — even by giving them a simple drink of water -- we are really serving Him just as if He were physically here on earth today. These neighbors were intrigued and wanted to know more about this Jesus found in the Bible.

Our orphanages are truly testimonies of Christ's love in Haiti. We are so thankful for many caring supporters who have donated individually to



An estimated 225,000 children serve as *restaveks* in Haiti (UNICEF)

Rebuilding Hope 2020 efforts and have hosted Orphan Care Sunday events in their congregations. **To continue to provide the level of quality care we have in the past, we need additional financial partners to meet the \$60,000 shortfall required by December 31.** Would you pray about this matter and consider personally sending a gift in the enclosed envelope? Together, we are making an eternal difference in the lives of these children.

Orphaned child Junior Julmice passed his 6th grade national exam in July and now attends 7th grade at Delmas Christian School



Pages 2 & 3

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP
GIFTS IN MEMORIAM
MISSION MOMENTS

Page 4

CHRISTMAS JOY
TO HAITI!

Leadership Camp for Haiti Teens: Laying a Foundation *by Peggy Cruze*

Many things in Haiti are temporary and without long lasting value -- housing, jobs, even dreams. So, it was exciting and refreshing to see and participate in events that have long lasting and even permanent implications for the direction of the future of young Haitians.

At the July Christian Leadership Youth Camp in Titanyen, Haiti, more than 180 young people (ages 15-22) from HFHC schools gathered with 28 Americans from 9 states to share in the fellowship and spiritual refreshing offered in a safe and hospitable environment. The focus of the camp was the study of the book of Proverbs, both in community and in small discussion groups. There were periods of singing and devotionals along with a number of organized activities and an awards ceremony celebrating the accomplishments of these amazing young people. Each day was packed with activity, with shared work, shared opportunity, shared joy, and a few shared tears. Each day held memorable moments that verified the purpose and value of the camp.

Several young Haitians who had accepted last year's challenge to read the Bible in a year brought their Bibles and their completed reading schedules. Their commendable achievements encouraged others, including the Americans, to accept the same challenge.

Soccer games weren't the only things producing excitement. Small discussion groups generated spirited dialogue among participants. Thoughtful questions were raised, and some of those discussions spilled over to times and places outside the sessions.

Two young ladies chose to accept Jesus in baptism. That choice prompted one of the young women later in a public setting to ask forgiveness for her unkindness toward two of her fellow students. What boldness! It was good to be reminded that while much in this life is quite temporary, the things of God are lasting.

His work in Haiti is producing a foundation that will last.



Flore is baptized by Jambon during teen camp

In Honor Of

Gifts In Memoriam

Julie Georges & Art DiCesare

Kim L. Bohannon

Loyd Kimberlin

Mrs. Wilma Kimberlin

Alice Junior

Robert & Kim Martin

Dennis Lacoss

Richard & Barbara Lacoss

Chris & Jenya Comfort

Carter Smith

Milt Blalack

Ken & Pam Ellis

John Caraway, Sr.

Arthur & Jean Baiden III

Pamela Billings

Danny & Suzy Glymph

Bud & Mary Goble

Bob & Pansy Greenlee

Mary Heaton

Lillian Jordan

Brooke Kleinfelter

Carl Lancaster

Patty Runion

Michael & Ruth Shemenski

Dorothy Curby

Richard & Joy Carter

Brenda Fette

Ken & Rhonda Bever

Nicholas & Patricia Calo

Kenneth & Pamela Ellis

Keith & Jane Fette

Mark Fette

Thomas Fette

Gail Fraizer

Charley & Amy Hughes

Lori Uphaus

Gray & Dorothy Koontz

Toni Leonard

Herman Orick

Gail Hedge

Wallace Williams

Bruce & Mary Janice

Castleman

Dr. Scott Wilson

James & Sandra Cain

Carl Lancaster

Gregory & Julie Palmer

Giving of Themselves: Short-Term Mission Teams 2013

Whenever one of our partner campus groups or church groups makes the commitment to travel to Haiti to personally serve the Haitian children and their communities – God makes wonderful things happen!

Serving on a mission team not only impacts the served but also the server. Amber Lowry, a member of this year's Edmond Church of Christ team writes this on her first night back in the States: *"We are all back home in our air-conditioned houses with food and clean water at our fingertips, and I've never been so aware of how much we are blessed here in America. The [Haitian] people there are so resilient and strong, but they still need so much help. Hope for Haiti's Children is doing SO much good work for the country, and it is so humbling to see it in action. I am so glad that I could be a small part in helping them move forward with the work they are doing."*



Bondye se
renmen menm.
1 Jan 4:16
GOD IS LOVE.

The latest group to serve was a team from First Colony Church of Christ (Sugar Land, TX). The team traveled to all 10 HFHC-supported schools and met with school leaders. Student progress and future classroom needs were reviewed. A "Know Your Bible" memory verse curriculum was given to the schools to be implemented this Fall across K-6th grades.



In March, mission teams from Crowley's Ridge College (Paragould, AR) and Oklahoma Christian University poured the foundation for the next Thomazeau school expansion and began the interior and exterior painting of the pre-school classrooms.



A men's group organized by Thom Besso from Sugar Land, Texas worked alongside Haitian masons to complete the walls of the 1st grade classroom at the Thomazeau Christian School. In addition, the team finished a water project to provide clean water to the entire community. (pictured: moving the 1,000 gallon water tank!)

Vacation Bible Schools for the orphans at Cazeau and Thomazeau were taught by two teams in June and July from the Edmond Church of Christ (Oklahoma) and the Yellow House Team from Nacogdoches, TX. The Bellevue Church of Christ (Nashville, TN) mission team completed a fun, kid-friendly mural on the exterior of the Thomazeau Christian Elementary School!



Hannah Lengefeld chose to spend the summer after her high school graduation serving the children of Haiti! For 5 weeks she taught and worked with the orphans at Thomazeau & Cazeau. She finished her not-so-short-term mission by assisting at the Christian Leadership Youth Camp. Pictured right with Hannah is 5th-grader, Ernise Boyer from the Cazeau Christian Orphanage.



Do you have an interest in being a team member on an HFHC mission trip? If so, e-mail us at missions@hopeforhaitischildren.org or call 1-866-314-9330.



12020 Southwick Lane
Cincinnati, OH 45241
1-866-314-9330
www.hopeforhaitischildren.org

U.S. Staff

Ken Bever, *President*

Tonya Hunt, *V.P. of U.S. Operations*

Jennifer Anthony, *Finance Manager*

Charlayne Boyd, *Administrative Assistant*

Amy Hughes, *Sponsorship Coordinator*

Shaun Talaber, *Account Administrator*

Dina Clyde, *IT/Communications Consultant*

Haiti NGO Operational Team

Jeantyrard Elmera, *Director*

Jean Baptiste Chery, *V.P. of Haiti Operations*

Marieshelle Jean-Pierre, *Office Administrator*

Johnny Laine Evenson, *Sponsorship Assistant*

Board of Directors

Kent Blake— Germantown, TN

Cedric Boyd—West Chester, OH

Peggy Cruze—West Chester, OH

Julie Georges—Greenwich, CT

Don Henderson—Middletown, OH

Bruce Zupa—Nashville, TN

www.HopeforHaitisChildren.org

The Journey of a Joy Box ... From Your Hands to Their Hearts

Members from 27 congregations have been busy preparing Christmas Joy Boxes for the impoverished children in Haiti. These boxes are full of small gifts such as pencils, flashlights, clothes and toys. A record 1,742 boxes were filled!

These Joy Boxes have quite the journey ... **shipped** by ground to Ft. Pierce, FL; **flown** into Haiti by Missionary Flights International; **processed** through the Haiti Customs Office; **received** by our Haiti staff; **stored** at the office and orphanage; **driven** in a box truck accompanied by our Haiti staff and U.S. mission team to our 10 schools; and then, finally, **hand-delivered one-by-one** to a smiling Haitian child.

Each year, more and more children are being blessed by these Christmastime presents. Not only will our 1,222 HFHC-sponsored children be receiving a Joy Box, but so will an additional 520 children from the neighboring communities.

*To our coordinators and
to each person who filled a Joy Box,
thank you so very, very much.*



Greetings cards by www.mountainmaid.org