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Sharing the Love of Christ

By Jennifer Perkins

Through the Trinity HOPE Haitian Feeding Program, 35 Feeding Program Directors visit over 260 schools in Haiti twice each month. It is easy for us to tell you what their work is; they not only monitor the feeding program guidelines, but they share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with each visit. However, to truly understand what this work means, and what an impact it has, it is better to hear about the experience from one of the FPDs. This account comes from Jean Dony Zidor, “Dony,” who works with 6 schools in Belle Anse.

Belle Anse is a district that straddles two worlds between the southeast shore near the Dominican Republic, and the mountains south of Port-au-Prince. Some of the schools in this district are in populous, urban areas and others are in the rural hills of Haiti.

Mare-Briole is a school of meager means with a tin roof, dirt floors, and walls made of wood and palm fronds. The mature trees that surround the school on this hillside provide some shade for the children while they’re playing outside. Dony sees his “work” for Trinity HOPE as a ministry rather than a “job.”

He described riding his motorcycle along a precarious road and across a river to get to Mare-Briole School. Some days, after a storm, the river is too swollen for him to cross. Nonetheless, he

finds a way to get there. Dony believes the children need to be fed and hear the Gospel.

Each time he visits the school, he offers a spiritual message. One particular day in January, Dony travelled to Mare-Briole for his bi-monthly visit. Prior to his visit, he prepared the message he wanted to share with the students and teachers. It was based on Psalm 91:14-15 *“Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.”*



“Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.”

While Dony traversed the river and the pathway to the school, he rehearsed the message he had prepared, keeping in mind the Biblical passage and the points he wanted to emphasize.

However, as he began to discuss the issues the students experience daily and share the message with them, the Holy Spirit spoke to

him and led him to guide the students into learning about having a relationship with Jesus Christ.

In the moment, Dony was called to share scripture from the book of John Chapter 1 verses 12-13; *“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name he gave the right to become children of*

Sharing the Love of Christ (Continued)

God, who were born, not of blood nor the will of the flesh nor the will of man, but of God. "

At the close of the message Dony said he could see on their faces that they wanted to know more about Jesus, they were genuinely hearing and understanding the love Jesus has for each of them. Afterwards, he talked to a professor who is also a pastor in the community. He wanted them to have Bibles and to gain the support of a local pastor as they learn more and grow in their faith. Many students began being disciplined in a deeper way on this day in January. Dony realized that listening to the direction of the Holy Spirit causes miracles.



Current Conditions in Haiti

By Keith Logan

At this point, trying to explain the current conditions in Haiti is very much a moving target. However, knowing our donors are fully invested with their prayers, financial support, and genuine concern for our brothers and sisters in Haiti, we want to be forthcoming with the latest information we have. Right now, the headlines are changing by the hour and conditions continue to deteriorate rapidly.

As I am writing this article, the Prime Minister just announced his resignation and gangs continue to tighten their chokehold on the city of Port au Prince:

- Burning numerous police stations
- Overpowering the country's largest prisons and releasing 3,000+ dangerous prisoners back into society
- Attacking the airports and halting all air traffic
- Gaining control over the largest sea port in Haiti which impacts over 80% of the food, gas, and medical supplies from entering into the country.

By the time you are reading this article, I'm sure those headlines will be "old news" and there will be new headlines demanding our attention. At this point, it is impossible to know exactly where the political upheaval will land. However, there are several points we know with absolute certainty.

First, God is a merciful God and He is still in control. We so often do not understand the twists and turns God allows in our lives, but we know God never abandons His people (*"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."* Deuteronomy 31:8). We must continue to trust His plan and His timing.

Second, throughout all this chaos, we are still feeding thousands of children every school day. Although the gangs' antics are impacting

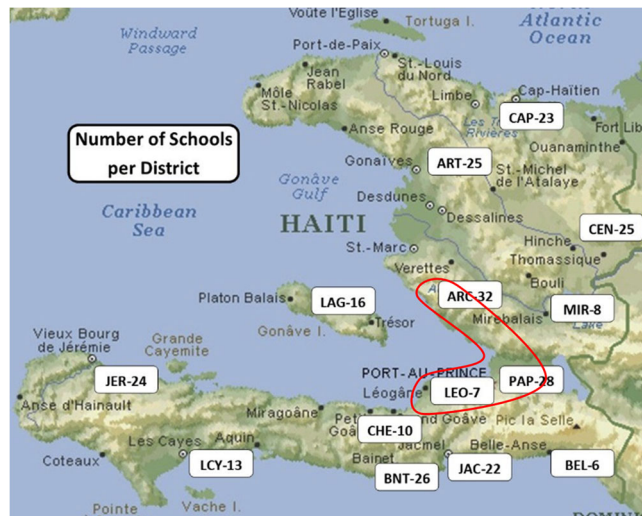
the entire country, the most dangerous areas are somewhat concentrated to those areas around Port au Prince (see map). Outside of those areas, most schools are continuing to operate at a basic level and, so far, we are able to continue the feeding programs. Thanks be to God for His protection over the children and our staff.

Third, in all the darkness Haiti is now facing, God is allowing Trinity HOPE to be a reminder to the people that *true hope* is found only in Jesus Christ. While these children receive this critically needed meal of rice and beans, they are also being fed the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. They need this spiritual food, as well as the physical food, more than ever right now. (*"Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'"* John 8:12).

Most everything in Haiti is incredibly volatile right now. We stay in very close contact with our staff in Haiti, reminding them that their safety is paramount. To date, God has consistently provided His protection over them, and has always enabled us to find a way to buy the food we need.

It hasn't always been every ingredient we would normally buy, and it certainly hasn't been at the prices we desired, but He has always provided. We give Him thanks for this! God created and called Trinity HOPE to feed His children every school day, and our commitment is to continue this important work as long as He enables us to do so, giving Him ALL the glory for this wonderful blessing.

PLEASE continue your steadfast prayers for all those in Haiti. We know the fight is already won, and the future of all Believers are secure through Jesus Christ. Pray that God will use Trinity HOPE, along with the entire body of Christ throughout Haiti, to share this message with great urgency to all those we are blessed to serve. Thank you for allowing us to serve God alongside you.



Un-sponsored School Highlights

Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela serves about 75 middle school students in grades 7-9. It is located on the island of LaGonave, which is very rural and quite beautiful. The school is made of stone and tin with a dirt floor.

Total Cost:
\$4,399



Blaise Pascal

Blaise Pascal is a small school in Cap Haitian. It serves about 45 children from pre-K through high school. The school started with the Trinity HOPE feeding program in 2019.

Total Cost:
\$2,923

This year, Trinity HOPE will serve over 260 schools through our feeding programs. The growth continues to amaze us, but as we add more schools, there are more schools needing sponsors. Currently, 70 schools are un-sponsored, and we rely on generous gifts from our numerous, individual donors to continue the program. The annual cost of school sponsorship can be as low as \$2,000 a year. If you are interested in sponsoring a school, call us at (615) 394-4950 or (910) 797-8357. We will work to find a school that is the perfect match for you.

Our fourth annual

Share the HOPE

auction is coming soon!

Please see our website beginning April 10th for more information and a preview of auction items!

www.trinityhope.org



Share the HOPE
Virtual Auction

April 17-22



FOR MORE
INFORMATION
VISIT US AT:

WWW.TRINITYHOPE.ORG

Partial List of Schools Available for Sponsorship

District	School	Meals Fed Daily	Total Annual Cost	Available Sponsorship Types	Balance Needed
Arcahaie / St. Marc	Aimé Césaire	151	\$9,521	Full	
Arcahaie / St. Marc	Jacques Gracia	171	\$10,588	Full	
Arcahaie / St. Marc	Philippe Guerrier	178	\$11,042	Full	
Arcahaie / St. Marc	Vision Moderne	119	\$7,256	Full	
Artibonite / Gonaives	Antenor Firmin	138	\$8,452	Full	
Artibonite / Gonaives	Celand Cherisme	150	\$9,249	Full	
Artibonite / Gonaives	Etzer Vilaire Trou Sable	163	\$10,046	Full	
Bainet	Chretienne Mijaba	186	\$11,158	Full	
Bainet	Village de Jesus Christ	82	\$4,554	Full	
Belle Anse	International Mission Outreach	70	\$4,087	Full	
Cap Haitian—Northeast	Blaise Pascal	45	\$2,923	Full	
Cap Haitian—Northeast	Foyer Baptist	143	\$8,784	Full	
Cap Haitian—Northeast	Micheline Cimeus	175	\$10,843	Partial	\$3,000
Central	Pierre Cesar	190	\$11,807	Full	
Central	Savane a Palmes	202	\$12,552	Full	
Central	Village de L'Esperance	123	\$7,473	Full	
Jacmel/Southeast	Ecocadre	133	\$8,120	Full	
Jacmel/Southeast	Evangelique de Raymond	150	\$8,724	Full	
Jacmel/Southeast	Frere Saint Germain	155	\$9,573	Full	
Jeremie/Grand'Anse	Bethanie	121	\$7,322	Full	
Jeremie/Grand'Anse	Bon Berger Bas Chateau	69	\$4,001	Full	
Jeremie/Grand'Anse	Bon Berger Moron	150	\$9,249	Full	
Leogane	Carmi	245	\$15,360	Full	
Leogane	Jean Justelorme	115	\$6,990	Full	
Les Cayes/South	Baptist Christ Vivant	129	\$7,417	Partial	\$3,917
Les Cayes/South	Ctr de Formation Classique	130	\$7,920	Full	
Port-au-Prince	Etzer Vilaire (de Chatelain)	78	\$4,561	Full	
Port-au-Prince	Gamaliel	97	\$5,794	Full	
Port-au-Prince	L'Espoir	96	\$5,728	Full	

For a complete list of schools available for sponsorship, please visit our website at www.TrinityHOPE.org/our-schools

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Remembering a Friend



Do you have a spiritual mentor? Someone that models how to *truly* live their life dedicated to serving Jesus in everything they do; a prayer warrior that talks to God more than members of their own family; a person that is a real “mover & shaker” and just gets things done for God’s Kingdom. For many of us involved in Trinity HOPE, that person was Lee Compton. With a mix of sadness and celebration, we had to say “goodbye for now” to Lee at the beginning of March, as she joined all the saints preceding her in heaven. Lee went to Haiti with Trinity HOPE four times, with her FIRST trip being in 2010 when she was 77 years old (don’t ever say you’re too old!). Just like many of us, the thousands of kids she met in Haiti over the years all called her

“Gramma Lee.” The accompanied photo is a very special moment in 2013 when Lee presented every child at “her school” in Haiti with their very own personal Bible. The children at Bergeaud School received these Bibles as a gift from Lee in honor of her 80th birthday. Lee was SO HAPPY to give God’s Word to these children, and the children were SO HAPPY to have their very own Bible. In most cases, this was the first book they had ever been given and would have likely been the only Bible in the household. Lee traveled to Haiti two more times, with her last trip being in 2018 at the spry age of 86. She had every intent to continue visiting Haiti into her 90’s, but due to all the insecurity and unrest in Haiti, we have not been able to take mission teams back since 2019. Lee was a member of the Trinity HOPE Board of Directors for many years and was the driving force in raising tens-of-thousands of dollars to help feed children throughout the country. We are all so blessed to have had the opportunity to learn from Lee how to live a long and full life in complete service to Jesus. Thank you, God, for your wonderful servant Lee, that touched the hearts of us all! Lee, we will miss you dearly. Well done good and faithful servant!

Seeing God More Clearly

After her last trip to Haiti in 2018, Lee Compton wrote an article for our newsletter. Grateful that she did, we are able to share her words here. Her words remind us why we do this work in spite of adversity, as they tell us why Lee continued to be a faithful advocate of Trinity HOPE.

“Every time I go to Haiti, I solemnly declare: ‘This is my last trip!’ And yet, I go back. And, every time I go back, I have a deeper faith in God and His almighty presence and plan. Isaiah 55: 8-9 says: *‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the Lord. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.’* You would have to believe that our God is in control and [that He has a] plan for everyone on earth, or you would be in utter despair after returning from Haiti. In Ephesians, 2:10, it says: *‘For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God created in advance for us to do.’* Never do I see the hand of God more clearly than in Haiti.”

In that article, Lee went on to write about how and where she saw God through many events and situations that took place

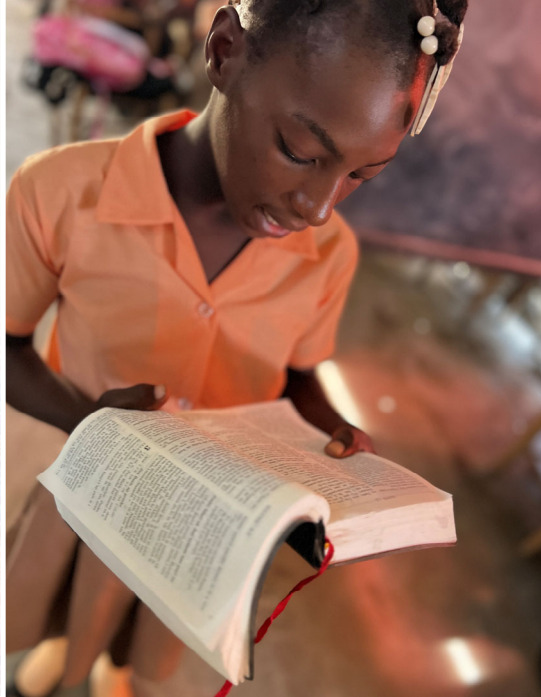


during that mission trip. Lee mentioned a food vendor who honored his commitment to feeding the children, even after prices had shifted and he was no longer making a profit on the rice he sold to the ministry. She also mentioned Stevenson, one of our former FPDs, and how he found the devotional “Jesus Always” while fixing her air conditioner. Lee gave Stevenson that book, and he was eager to share it as a blessing to others.

There were 6 other examples like these in her article, but it is her final words that resonate the most.

“None of these Haitian people are rich financially. Most live in dire poverty, but they are rich in faith. They rely on God with every breath they take. Their faith puts mine to shame. So – I go back! If not me, who? If not now, when?”

Everyone doesn’t have to go to Haiti. Everyone doesn’t have to feed an entire school. Everyone doesn’t have to do EVERYTHING, but we can all do something! God created all these good works for us to do and He has a huge warehouse filled with opportunities just waiting to be opened. If we don’t open them, who will?”



Rejoice in the Lord

By Denise Gudlin and Jay Brinkmeyer

"The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him," Nahum 1:7

Memories of Christian friends in Haiti came flooding back into vacant spaces that were not filled with the minutiae that this world poured in today. While reading news from Haiti, my heart went to the children and families I have met who live there. They are now impacted by gang activity with even fewer ways to make money to feed their families. They focus on survival each day, unable to think beyond the current need.

Imagine seeing a Haitian child in an extremely small school the size of a single stall car garage. She would be sitting on a board tucked between two other students in a room that is 90 humid degrees, learning about geography, French, and Jesus. Through all of this, she would be beaming with an ear-to-ear smile. This is unimaginable to our way of thinking. How can she possibly be so happy? It is because she has the promise of a Savior and she leans daily on His everlasting arms?

One little girl, Rolanda, comes to mind. I met Rolanda at Martin Luther school in the Central Plateau area of Haiti.

Martin Luther is a very small school, about the size of a two car garage. Rolanda lives with her mother, father, four brothers and



one sister. It takes her about an hour to walk to school, but she is grinning ear-to-ear as she approaches the school. She loves school, and she wants to learn to read to her mom and dad. She loves learning the alphabet. When I asked her how old she was she had

no idea. Her family does not celebrate birthdays. This family literally just survives each day and is thankful for the meal the children receive at school.

Rolanda and her family do not understand health insurance, retirement plans, savings accounts, three meals every day, a closet full of clothes, a cupboard full of processed food, an air conditioner, indoor plumbing, lights, television, or a computer...they just have Jesus. They take refuge in His grace and know they have a future with Him, regardless of this crazy world in which they live.

While we all hear of the violence and gang activity that plagues Haiti, I pray you think of the Haitians that are just trying to survive each day. Pray that they continue to receive God's Good News and love each day, sharing it with others that live in fear during these times of trouble in Haiti. They are the victims who just want more for their children, just as

we do here in America.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:4-6