



HAITI LUTHERAN MISSION SOCIETY

400 Glenridge Avenue
St. Catharines, ON
L2T 3L2

Explosive Growth in New Congregation

Last July, Paul Klenner of California led a group in a week of evangelism in Marotte, a small town outside of Gonaives. Lay Pastor Charles had set the whole thing up, but Pastor Benoit was heard to say, "Why are you taking them to such a place? We have tried before and those people have no use for Jesus and His Word!" Paul Klenner and his group typically take a small band and play music out in the street and talk to as many people as possible. Close to 30 people were blessed with faith in Christ that week, including 2 voodoo priestesses. Paul reported how wonderful it was to burn all of their voodoo paraphernalia out in the street. 45 people attended their first church service in early August. Helen Roenfeldt from our Florida affiliate was in Gonaives and Marotte in early November and reported that 190 people attended their latest church service. Pastor Benoit is really pleased, since his mother was a voodoo priestess before her conversion.

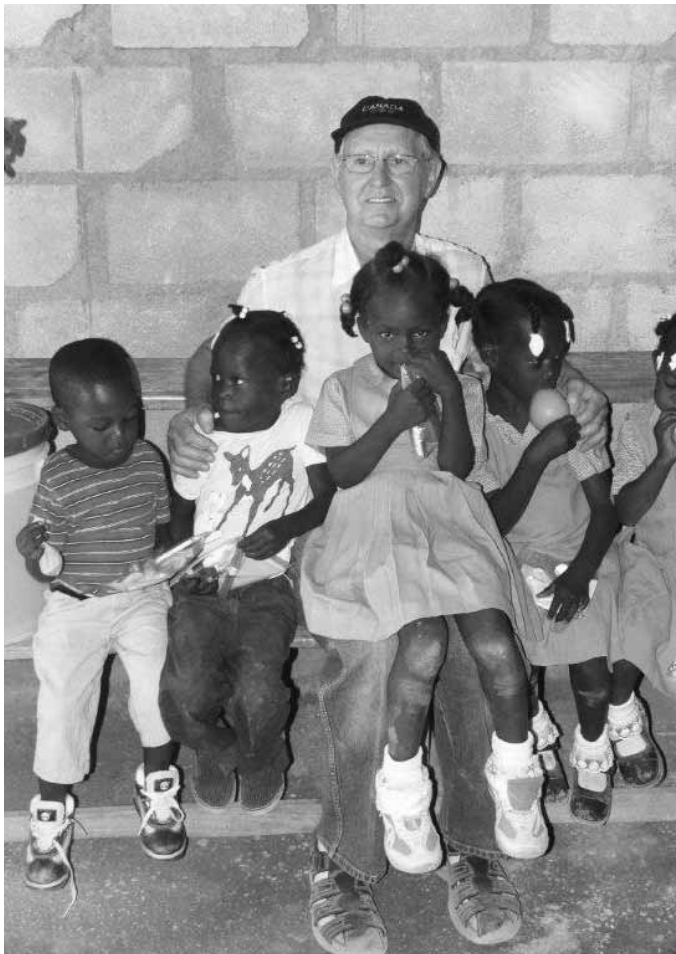
Pastor Benoit's own words in August: "Since that first night, it is like a spiritual revival in that area. Every single day the people in Marotte keep joining the church with tears in their eyes. They have a daily prayer service from 11:00 AM through to 2 PM where there is clear

manifestation of God's power. The people are crying, getting healed, and giving great testimonies of how they had been bound by Satan and demons. They now feel free and give themselves 100% to Jesus. Besides, they also have a very long prayer service on Friday night from 10:00 PM. to 4:00 AM, where people who are possessed by demons are freed. The voodoo priests are persecuting their former voodoo members who are becoming Christians, because they are losing so many. That is why they are so mad at myself and Lay Pastor Praviel who is in charge of that congregation."

One former voodoo priestess is 43 years old with 8 kids and 8 grandchildren. The LCH gave her a micro-loan to start up a small business so that she would not regress. People like that not only become Christian but also lose their "job," They had to take some of our donated clothes to the new members so that they could attend church. They are also planning to put a sewing school in that area with some of the 57 sewing machines sent last Fall. A second school is to be put in Gonaives. This is just one example of why the LCH is growing so fast!

President Bugbee Visits the LCH

Rev. Robert Bugbee, President of Lutheran Church-Canada, visited Rev. Revenel Benoit and the Lutheran Church of Haiti, February 12-13, 2012, with Dr. Albert Collver, Vice-President for Church Relations of the LCMS. They aimed to further cooperation between the LCH and the ELCH in theological education. After worshipping in Faith Congregation in Gonaives, they visited the church's boys' orphanage, a depot providing clean water, a stone quarry, and the transmitter for TV and radio broadcasting. Then, the visitors traveled south to visit Rev. Marky Kessa, President of the ELCH in Jacmel.



Walter Bogusat is surrounded by some kids in a classroom.

President Bugbee reported: Haitians “are gracious and welcoming—nowhere more so than at the orphanage in Gonaives. There, I was surrounded by a flock of little boys following me around. They had been abandoned on the streets as young as two years of age and are starving for attention. Now, they are provided with a roof, a bed, good meals, and enrolment at Concordia Lutheran School.”



Pastor Benoit's 4 story church building. The sanctuary at the bottom floor is woefully too small, they spill out into the courtyard at every service.



Mission Teams ... Bill Becker, age 78, was a manager of the construction team from Dashwood, ON.

School Feeding Program

Many of you know that Erna McBride, a long time member of our board, set up a trust fund after the passing of her daughter, to sponsor a complete school within the feeding program. Mixte Nazareth had a population of 150 kids when they started the feeding program. That number swelled to such an extent that they now have 397 on the roll as of Dec. While they normally see an increase this one was dramatic. Trinity / Hope does such a wonderful job in running this program. They do it for merely 26 cents per meal and from the picture one can see that the portions are not small. They feed daily 17,750 kids in 91 different schools, but have 30 schools waiting in the wings. 60 - 65% of the Haitian population practices Voodoo, but when they attend one of these schools 955 of the kids become Christian and over half of the parents after the kids take the "Good News" home. As Keith Logan states "one thing is certain...these children we are feeding today are growing into the little missionaries God intended them to be and are impacting God's Kingdom throughout Haiti."



Shown are plates of food ready for the students

HLMS Aid to Haiti since the Earthquake

Two years ago, Jan. 12, 2010, Haiti was shattered by a devastating earthquake. Many countries and organizations promised generous amounts of aid. Recent reports indicate that most of the promised aid has not materialized. In contrast, the HLMS has sent all to Haiti of the contributions received for earthquake relief, plus many other forms of aid. Here is a summary of aid efforts by HLMS in the past two years:

Earthquake relief (for food, water, medical supplies, tents, blankets, and including a compressor, small bulldozer, portable welder, two generators, replacement parts for bulldozer, tractor and flatbed trailer) --- \$82,066.

Rebuilding of 45 churches --- \$146,184.

Five 40-foot Containers of goods --- \$56,907.

Goods purchased for the containers --- \$12,602.

Tents for earthquake homeless (paid by Canadian Lutheran World Relief) --- \$29,990.

Children's Feeding program --- \$27,223.

Mission support (salaries for lay pastors & teachers, 1000 Bibles, French hymnals, etc.) --- \$77,117.

Cholera serum (that saved thousands of lives) --- \$29,695.

Water filter program --- \$2,000.

Quarry supplies --- \$5,046.

Bakery refurbishing after flooding damage --- \$10,000.

Beds for guest house --- \$2,300.

LCH's Star Construction Co. removed rubble from 7,000 thousand sites and built 1,000 pre-fabricated homes with equipment of their church-owned quarry. HLMS helped purchase much of this equipment in previous years.

ALL GOODS SHIPPED in 5 CONTAINERS SINCE THE EARTHQUAKE 2 YEARS AGO BY HAITI LUTHERAN MISSION SOCIETY

2641	BOXES OR BAGS OF USED CLOTHING	1	MACK TRUCK MOTOR
470	BAGS OF USED SHOES	27	SMALL TENTS
113	STACKING CHAIRS	13	MATRESSES - SINGLE
429	BOXES OF KITCHEN SUPPLIES	15	BED FRAMES
452	BAGS OF BEDDING OR TOWELS	10	PLYWOOD SHEETS
2491	SLEEPING MATS	4	LADDERS
389	GARDEN TOOLS, HAND TOOLS, NAILS	1	CATERPILLAR 931 LOADER
162	BOXES OF SEWING SUPPLIES	1	16 KW GENERATOR
125	BOXES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES (NO PRESCRIPTIONS)	2	LARGE TABLES
66	BOXES OF TOILETRIES	1	COMBO PORTABLE AIR COMPRESSOR
88	BOXES OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES	1	JACK HAMMER ETC.
122	USED SEWING MACHINES (SOME TREADLE)	4	FILING CABINETS
18	TIRES FOR DUMP TRUCK	1	DIESEL WELDER
388	CU. FT. ASSORTED PIECES OF USED LUMBER	2	TABLE SAWS
39	SETS OF CRUTCHES	5	DIESEL / ELECTRIC MOTORS
21	WHEELCHAIRS OR WALKERS	1	PROPANE STOVE
5	SUV TIRES	2	MINI FRIDGES
42	BAGS OF TOYS	2	AIR CONDITIONERS
12	HOUSEHOLD ARTICLES, FURNITURE	19	MISC. GOODS
21	BAGS OF PURSES / BAGS		
34	BOXES FRENCH TEXT BOOKS, HYMNALS		
3	WHEELBARROWS		
2	JACKS		

The last container was shipped the end of Oct., 2011, and they got it sprung from customs after only a month. The pickup was made on Dec. 23rd and they were able to do the distribution on Christmas Day - what a blessing! The next container out will likely be packed at the end of April, 2012.