



Friends Sharing

*Reaching out in Love to help
the people of Haiti*



The President's Corner

Spring 2024

31 March 2024

Easter Sunday

Last day of Friends of the People of Haiti

Dearest Friends,

Happy Easter, Alleluia! He is risen!

What hope Easter brings. God's greatest love is shared with us! How powerful love and hope can be. Our Haitian brothers and sisters are desperately clinging to His hope and love to sustain them these dark and horrific days. Please, please continue to pray for the country of Haiti and our friends who struggle unbearable hardships every single day.

The last day of my first trip to Haiti in February 2000, a 3-year old clinging to my leg, looked at me with pleading eyes and said, "pa bliye m" "Don't forget about me". I was shocked. Firstly, how could I possibly forget anything about Haiti but especially the people, my new friends, and especially the children. I couldn't forget them even if I wanted to. They had touched my heart so profoundly. But to a child, when our visits were only 2 weeks every year, I can understand the reason for thinking we might forget them.

For the past 35 years, Friends of the People of Haiti organization – YOU my dear friends – have never forgotten the people of Haiti. Our partnership with St. Anne's parish in Trouin, Haiti has been solid, spiritual, helpful, and important. It has been rooted in faith, and love and brotherhood. I've come to see it not as us and them, but as we... united together in a common cause to help improve the lives of our family as much as we can.

How can I even begin to thank you for all your unwavering love & support over the past years? All the accomplishments physical, financial, educational and spiritual; all the lives we've touched; all the love we've shared – God's love. All the gifts given and received have made a difference – countless differences and improvements in our lives by enriching us with friendships. Acts of charity are never forgotten.

And, as we come to close the Friends of the People of Haiti chapter, we have been blessed again with a most gracious act of charity by the Love for L'Allemand group, who have been moved to continue support of St. Anne's Parish in Trouin. I'm very excited and happy for them to come to know our friends and continue the legacy of God's grace touching our brothers and sisters in Trouin. I pray you will also be moved by the spirit to continue support of St. Anne's parish through the Love for L'Allemand organization. All donations made to Love for L'Allemand and marked for St. Anne's will be guaranteed to support St. Anne's parish.

As my final act as president of FOPH, I'm writing this article with a full heart; aching to return, but knowing that's impossible under these current conditions. And also full of gratitude for each of you showing me and teaching me how to love each other as sons and daughters of Christ. Thank you. Mesi Ampil.

God bless you all. . . Luann

ANNOUNCEMENT



Please welcome the new pastor of St. Anne's Parish in Trouin. Father Jores Fleurimond. A big thank you to Father Charles Elano for his partnership, help & friendship during his years at St. Anne's.

Trouin is located approximately 36 miles southwest from the capital, Port-Au-Prince. St. Anne's parish consists of a church, school and ten outlying chapels and smaller schools. In 1989, the school was only through 8th grade, but in recent years, classrooms and students have been added through high school level.

Father Jores Fleurimond



Father Charles with Mission Team 2017

CANS FOR CANS - Jean Edmunds will still be collecting non-crushed aluminum cans for Haiti. Please drop off your cans at her home at 1739 - 11th Ave Moline or call (563) 349-1650. Jean raised over \$1,000 last year collecting cans!!! The money she raises will go for the support of our friends in Trouin and the support of St. Anne's School. THANK YOU, Jean for your support and dedication.



DID YOU KNOW?

Haiti, is a small country in the Caribbean Sea that includes the western third of the island of Hispaniola. It is slightly smaller than the state of Maryland. Current estimate population is 12,257,000. The capital is Port-au Prince.

Haiti, whose population is almost entirely descended from African slaves, won independence from France in 1804, making it the second country in the Americas, after the US, to free itself from colonial rule. However, over the past centuries, economic, political and social difficulties as well as a number of natural disasters have beset Haiti with chronic poverty and other serious problems. Haiti's government is a republic with two legislative houses (Senate [30]; Chamber of Deputies [99]).

Right now Haiti is in chaos with much gang violence! Haiti's unpopular current Prime Minister, Ariel Henry is in Puerto Rico and has agreed to resign once a transitional government is in place. Food is scarce.

OUR MISSION

Friends of the People of Haiti is a non-profit Christian group established in 1989 in order to broaden our vision of church by building a relationship of prayer and friendship with the people of St. Anne's Parish in Trouin, Haiti. Our focus is to foster awareness of the plight of the Haitian people as well as to share our resources by providing regular financial support to the parish. St. Anne's Parish in Trouin, Haiti was established in 1924 and has one parish church and ten outlying chapels, a primary school and a secondary school.

PARTING THOUGHTS

Note from your Editor, Diane Gelaude - It is with mixed emotions that I write this last newsletter. I am using some of Cleon's parting words in our in last newsletter. An old Haitian proverb says: "Little by little the bird builds its nest." Yes, I believe, little by little Friends of the People of Haiti has made a difference . With the Spirit's help and guidance for over 35 years we have remained faithful to our commitment to help St. Anne's Parish. Most of the time it has been 2 steps forward and 1 step back. But always trying to touch as many lives as we can.

Now, the Spirit seems in various ways to be showing us that it's time to bring the mission work to a close. So as of March 31, 2024, Friends of the People of Haiti will close its books. We are turning the reins over to our friends at Love for L'Allemand; another non-profit organization that knows and shares our love for the Haitian people. The Spirit has guided us to this point, and we believe will continue to be present as we move through this transition & into the future.



Love for L'Allemand values education as much as we do and has agreed to continue the support of St. Anne's Parish in Trouin. We hope you will continue your support. Please send your donations to Love for L'Allemand with a notation for St. Anne's Parish to ensure accurate routing. Payments to Love for L'Allemand can be made in several ways:

1. Checks - please make payable to: Love for L'Allemand with a note on the memo line for St. Anne's Parish.
Send to Lori McKenzie
Love for L'Allemand
2906 - 2nd Street
Moline, IL 61265
2. Via the website—all with a notation for St. Anne's Parish
loveforlallemand.org - donation button
PayPal - paypal@Lallemand2020 or Venmo - [Venmo@Lori4Haiti](https://venmo.com/Lori4Haiti).

For questions please contact Lori McKenzie - phone (309 781-3785 - Loveforlallemand@gmail.com or lorimcknz94@gmail.com . Please know your donations go directly to Haiti and to the people. There is no "middle man." Your prayers and monetary help is needed now more than ever.





Friends of the People of Haiti
12570 US Highway 150
Orion, Illinois 61273

TRIVIA NIGHT FOR HAITI

Supporting Love For L'Allemand L'Allemand & Trouin, Haiti



May 18, 7:00pm

Doors open at 6. \$10/player, teams of 8 max
Golden Leaf Banquet Center, 2902 E Kimberly Rd, Davenport

CALL OR TEXT TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE: 309-781-3785

NEW LOCATION!

\$10/player