

# Dreams for Haiti / ACH

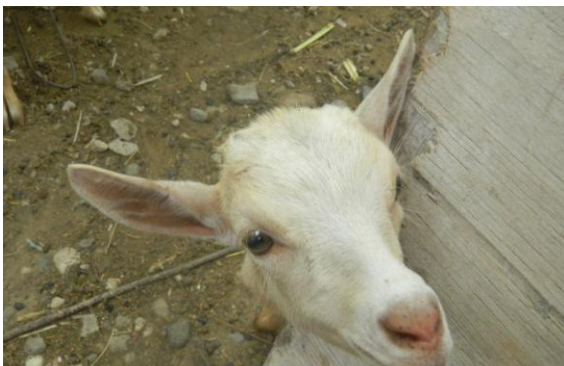
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**Texas Hold-em** Our Texas Hold-em was held in February. Unlike the perfect weather we had for the golf scramble the weather for the card game was freezing cold! But some hardy souls came out and won prizes and from the noise level they seemed to be having a great time! Thank you to those who came out to help, to play and the workers with all the great food.



**Golf scramble** Our golf scramble was held May 20<sup>th</sup> and it was a perfect day for being outside. There were many prizes in the raffle and the silent auction and the top golfers also won some great prizes. If you are a golfer I hope you will join us next year.



Chickens \$10, Ducks \$20, Goats \$50 Pigs \$60  
Cow \$300

**Animal projects** It is spring and love is in the air, or so it would seem by the number of animals being born. The animal owners send a big thank you to those who helped get this project going. It is making a difference.



**School tests and flag day** School will be finishing up the middle of June. Our older kids will be taking a final test to see if they pass to a higher grade. These tests are very hard and the children study a long time to pass them but we are proud of the kids that showed up at school even when it was scary with the gangs and the kidnappings. The children also enjoyed having a small parade with some students playing instruments and the other children following behind doing a special dance step. Once they returned to the school building they were treated with popcorn and juice. Flag day is very special in Haiti.

Haitian Proverb: *Pitit se richès malere* **Translation:** Children are the wealth of the poor. **Meaning :** Children bring happiness and comfort to the less fortunate. They are also the future of their families

**Sponsorship** School will soon be out but we collect sponsorship year round so we may purchase uniforms, shoes, books and backpacks in the fall. We could really use more sponsors for many kids as inflation is so great right now. We try to feed the students during the summer also. \$25 a month or \$300 for the whole year.

**Biden Parole Program** We still have a single young man and a family of 4 waiting to get the clearance to come to the States on the Parole Program. Paperwork has been turned in months ago but so many people jammed the system and due to gang violence the Haitian offices have been shut down so we are still waiting. We are praying they both get the OK soon.

**Condolences** We are sad to announce the passing of an original board member since 2003. Mrs Mary Bruning passed away following an illness. She will be missed !



Pastor Gilbert Jules and Mary Bruning at mission conference

**Food** Kids against Hunger had a food packing date and donated all the food boxes to Dreams for Haiti. This will be added to the canned goods that are being collected to ship. The folks in Haiti are now able to purchase food but it is so expensive they cannot afford it. We have gained a donor who wishes to help feed the children each month. I was sent a really cute video of the children saying thank you for the food and one little boy added thank you for the Miami food. I sent a text back and told Pastor Charles to show them where Missouri was and tell them that was St. Louis food!

**Gangs** The gangs are still very much in control and are keeping the people living in fear. The Haitian people as a whole are friendly, mild mannered people. Very few have a weapon other than the machete that they use for gardening. But after several years they have had enough of the gang control and the kidnappings. A few of the neighborhoods are now fighting back. They have used their machetes to kill some gang members. They

have also set a few on fire. The people are taking back their country. There are still gangs blocking the main roads and gangs taking over neighborhoods but I am hearing hope for the first time in a very long time that Haiti will rise again. I am waiting for the day groups are safe to go and visit and containers are able to once again travel the highways.

**Evangelism:** The route to the South seems a little safer right now so Pastor Gilbert and wife Dr. Legette and one other fellow church member will be making the trip south to evangelize, to feed people, to care for the sick and train 170 Church leaders. They will go by boat to avoid areas that are still held by gangs. They will be going June 15<sup>th</sup> and will be gone for a month. If you would like to contribute to the expenses of the trip please send donations to Dreams for Haiti and make sure you mark it for evangelism.

Recently many towns in Haiti were flooded. The videos are showing so much devastation but they are showing the true spirit of the Haitian people. Young men sat up a rope and were escorting people across the flood. They were helping people over a wall to get back into their homes and they were rescuing people caught in the flood and being swept away. These are the Haitians that I know and love.



Escorting people across the flooded street

**Church** May was the 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Church which started out as a few people meeting in a school room. We now have an official church and it is making a big difference in the neighborhood.



Youth at Church anniversary celebration