



**Farsight Christian Mission**

741 Willow Grove Terrace  
Davie, FL 33325-6392  
Email: HalsteadLL@aol.com  
Web: www.farsight.cc  
Phone: 954-236-8406

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Farsight is dedicated to seeing a need and responding. Our goal is to give a "Hand Up" rather than just a "Hand Out"

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**Church services** at Seguin Christian Church. **WOW!!** The first service is for the youth and is attended by our **ONE HUNDRED FORTY-TWO** school students along with other children who want to attend the first service. The second service, mostly for adults, also fills the building with over **TWO HUNDRED** men and women.

142

**Students** are now enrolled in Seguin Christian School. **HELP!!** I anticipated an enrollment of 100+ but I had also given Thomas instruction to get all our workers into school if possible. I need sponsors! If you have volunteered to sponsor a child and have not received a packet yet, call me. If you are willing to sponsor a child for a year, call me. **(1-800-450-1434)** I need all the help I can get.

400

**Teeth.** That's approximately to number of teeth that Dr. John Davis, assisted by Julie Reese, Kimberly Sharpe, Dave Tardiff and Linda Geheran, pulled in our four-day dental clinic. The dental chairs donated by dentists in Michigan and Virginia were a God send. Years of pain was erased in minutes for the Haitian people and God got the glory and praise.

50

**Patients** came each day seeking medical attention. Early one morning I stepped quietly out the back door of the clinic to rinse out the coffee pot. I think the adult teams from Virginia might have mutinied if they didn't awaken to the smell of coffee brewing. As I turned to go inside a children ran up to inform me that there were patients waiting on the front porch. I looked up and noted that the sun was not yet fully risen, that meant it was about 5:45a.m. I gave Hermann (our security man) a set of 32 numbers to pass out. This helps to keep the order in the crowd. By the time breakfast was over most of the numbers had been passed out. It was 7:15a.m. and time to get to work. We brought in two patients, sometimes a whole family, at a time. There was usually a lull in the crowd about 2 p.m. and then it picked up again from 3 to 5 pm.

715

**Cement blocks.** The four corners of "Phase I" of the new school building are finished 12 blocks high. All the walls are up 6+ blocks high. We used up almost all our available blocks. The women proved themselves to be as good in the role of block tender and block layer as they were as nurse and dentist.

## Forefront TEAM 1-2000



I spent two great weeks with teams from Forefront Christian Church, Virginia Beach, Virginia. In the picture at left is (from l to r & back to front-the white faces) Dan Reese, Linda Geherin, Julie Reese, John Davis, Kimberly Sharpe, David Tardiff, Paul Simonsen and Steffenie Ferguson.

What a fantastically diverse and talented group this was. God knows how to put a team together. There must have been something special in the air--by week's end Paul had proposed to Steffenie and she accepted.

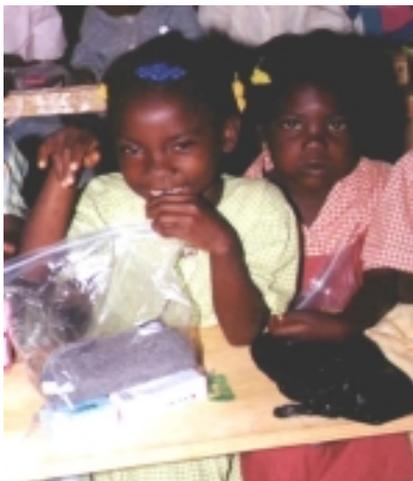


There are several of the team that I could meet on the street and might not recognize. John, Julie, and Kimberly spent most of their daylight hours in full dental attire. For a week after they had left the mtn. there were still people coming to see the dentist. Dave also took a break from medical work to come over and learn to pull teeth.

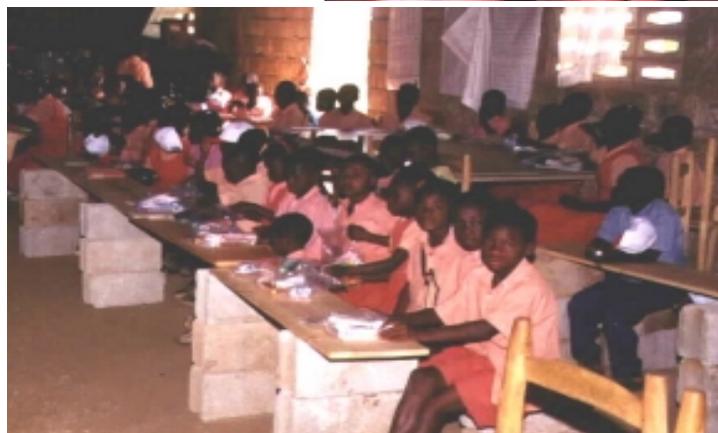
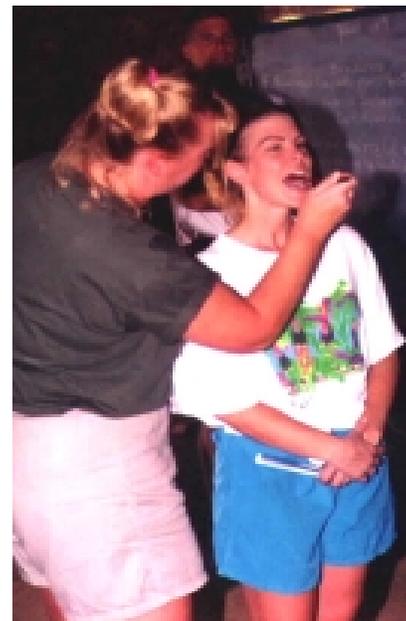
The dental team did more than pull teeth. With 140 pairs of eyes

watching intently, Julie and Kimberly give a demonstration to all the school children on the proper way to brush their teeth. All the children must brush their teeth daily or risk being sent home. They understand how important school is. This rule lets them know how important good hygiene is. The little girl below is smiling and giggling excitedly as she looks at all the stuff in her plastic bag. Lakeshore Christian Church sent about a hundred bags filled with soap, toothpaste & brush, washcloth, comb and other hygiene goodies. That day at school was better than all their Christmas days put together.

The job of desk building is almost continuous. The guys from week #2 converted the boards pictured below right into 6 more desks. Each desk



was intended to seat two students. So far, depending on the child's size, they usually seat three to four students. Their desire to learn is intense. Their talents and abilities as yet untapped and unmeasured.





Linda and Dave applied and expanded their medical knowledge throughout the week. Every day the challenge seemed endless as the line of patients formed outside the clinic even before our early breakfast. About the time they thought they would finally catch up and be able to take a break, a new line of patients, people who may have been walking for hours to see a doctor, would appear on one of the many paths that lead to the church and clinic.



Paul was an inspiration to watch. He made concrete work look easy. It was like watching an artist at work. Pastor Roro commented that Paul's work was the finest he had ever seen in Haiti. As I consider all the floors and roofs yet to be poured I wonder if I could coordinate my construction to coincide with his vacation schedule. Is there anybody out there who wants to help with the construction but you don't really want to get covered in concrete? Consider sending Paul in your place.

Dan fell in love with our little pickup. Which was good. Anytime we needed blocks or sand hauled, he was there eager to do it. He possesses a contagious positive energy and zeal for serving the Lord that makes him a pure joy to work with. He has been, is, and will continue to be an essential and indispensable part of the Farsight Mission work.



Each day Steffenie amazed me. She proved to be the most versatile person on the team. She worked in the clinic, carried blocks and water, cleaned and organized both storerooms, mopped, cooked and also found time for the important stuff like giving a child a hug and blowing bubbles.

So far, what I have reported is just week one of two fantastic weeks. When I dropped this team off at the airport I picked up another.

Mark Miller brought; Mike and Jodene Reppert, Rhonda Bowen and Marian Mann from Forefront Christian Church in Virginia. That's right, they had so many volunteers that they sent back-to-back teams. They were joined by

Bob Keese and Kim Smith, a couple of my regularly repeating volunteers from Michigan. All but Rhonda and Jodene had been on the mountain one or more times, so there was no adjustment time needed. Everyone picked a job and went to work. Kim, Marian, Jodene and Rhonda worked the clinic, but Rhonda also discovered a new talent--blocklaying. By the end of the week just about everyone had tried or had been involved in all of the different projects that needed to be done. I am telling you all about week #2 and not showing you a single picture. The reason for that is simple. Not one of the team has sent me any of their pictures. I asked for pictures and waited, but then realized that if I am to include a Christmas message in this newsletter then I had better get it sent out before Christmas. If I ever get any pictures I will try to stick them in a future newsletter.

When this team left the mtn. we had used up almost all our blocks and had the four corners of the new school building finished twelve blocks high and most of the walls six to eight rows high. Thomas is supposed to finish the walls so the team in January can begin work on the roof and leveling the area for the second section of the building.

# Merry Christmas

Our fourth year as a missionary family is concluding as we pause to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. We thank our Father for the first and best gift, the gift of His Son. The gift that makes life worth living. The gift that brings hope and love into this hopeless and indifferent world.

We also want to thank each of you for your gifts and prayers. Without you, this work would not exist.

Because of you, Hope and Love grows in the hearts and souls of hundreds of families living on a mountaintop at the edge of a tiny island. They too would like to thank you for the gifts you have made possible.

Levern, Cindy, Paul and Amanda Halstead

## Happy New Year 2001

The new year is fast approaching and it already looks to be a banner year for the Lord's work. We have already scheduled ten weeks of volunteers going to Haiti and five weeks of sharing the work with summer campers. If 2001 is the year you want to get hands-on in a mission field, call soon. If you have been reading the newsletters and think that Haiti's roads are a little too rough or the air on the mountain too thin then I have more good news for you. Farsight is looking at a number of new opportunities where the door has swung open and stayed open, the invitation has been loud and persistent, and the fields "white unto harvest". These new openings are in Mexico, Panama, Guyana, Turks & Caicos, Jamaica, Montserrat, and others. Some of these countries have no Christian missionary worker on record, and yet an opportunity has opened to bring the Gospel message to these people. One very nice bonus is that some of these countries speak English.

In your lifetime, how many times have you made the New Year's Resolution to read through the Bible in that year? More importantly, how many times have you succeeded? Maybe its time to put down the "How To" manual, better yet - bring it with you - and put into practice all that you have been studying.

### My Resolution for the year 2001

#### I resolve to:

- Pray for Farsight Christian Mission at least once each week for the entire year.
- Regularly support the work of Farsight Christian Mission financially.
- Become a volunteer and short-term missionary to one of the many fields awaiting workers.
- Provide the support so that another could go in my place to the mission field.
- Sponsor a child for a year in the Seguin Christian School program.
- Read the Bible all the way through this year.

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Sign

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Date