

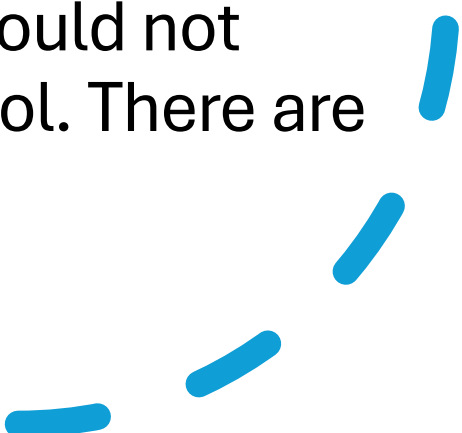
The Tapio School Story





In February of 2012, while on a mission trip to Haiti, a group from Leo Methodist Church encountered Joseph Jean. Joseph is an ordained minister with a heart for education. He was running a small school up in the rural mountains of Haiti.

Joseph was teaching the children who had nowhere else to go. Their parents could not afford to send them to private school. There are no public schools in rural Haiti.

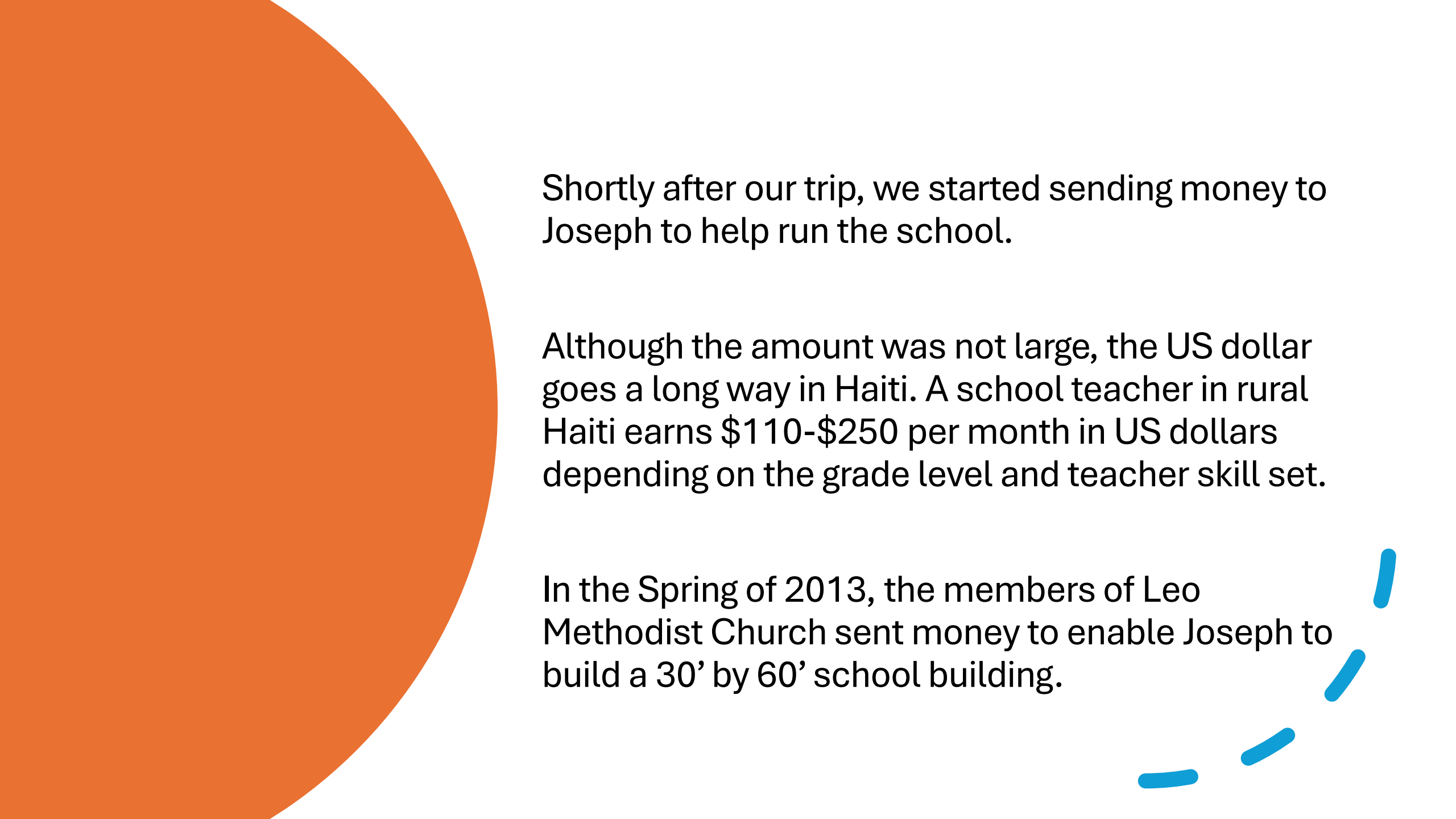




This was Joseph's school



Joseph, his assistant and the students



Shortly after our trip, we started sending money to Joseph to help run the school.

Although the amount was not large, the US dollar goes a long way in Haiti. A school teacher in rural Haiti earns \$110-\$250 per month in US dollars depending on the grade level and teacher skill set.

In the Spring of 2013, the members of Leo Methodist Church sent money to enable Joseph to build a 30' by 60' school building.



The construction started in March



Here is the completed building

Although the school now had a building, the students were forced to sit on the ground because they did not have desks.



In February of 2014,
Leo Methodist Church
helped add desks, but
as you can see the dirt
floor was a problem.





Dust everywhere



In the summer of
2014, Leo
Methodist Church
helped with
concrete floors.



A congregation
holds church in
the building on
Sundays.



Only the teachers had books prior to the Summer of 2015. That year, with your help, the mission committee funded the acquisition of books for students.





Here are the students in the Spring of 2017





Inside the school building



Kindergarten
rooms were
added
outside
because the
school had
outgrown the
building.

Plans for expansion following Leo Methodist's 2017 visit



Joseph anticipated a need for 4 classrooms and a library



Construction costs were just shy of \$25,000



We raised funds from July-November 2017



Construction began in December 2017



February 2018



August 2020 – New school building



Classes start in the new school building

Douje

- In the Summer of 2022, Joseph wrote about a school that was closing in a neighboring community called Douje. This school had 83 students and 5 teachers, but no funding. The town offered to turn the school over to Joseph to run. He asked if The Friends of the Tapio School would help financially. After much prayer, the Board of Directors felt the Lord moving them to take a leap of faith and agreed to help with this school as well.



Lunch in a Classroom in Douje

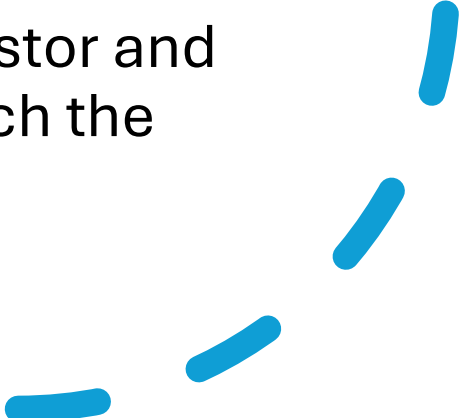


Today's situation

- As you have probably read the country of Haiti has been devastated by gang activities. This includes kidnappings, extortion, and open gun battles in the streets of some towns. The nearby town Titanyen has been overrun by the gangs.
- The good news is both schools were able to open on time this Fall and have been holding to a regular school schedule.
- Tapio School feeds and educates over 200 students and supports over 17 families through employment despite the gang activity in Titanyen.
- The Douje school has expanded to over 150 students and employs over 15 teachers and staff.

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These schools provide help in a time of need

- Between the two schools, more than 350 students are receiving an education.
 - Both schools provide a meal to the students and staff each school day in a country where malnutrition is rampant.
 - The schools combined provide critical employment to over 30 staff members in a country where the unemployment rate is nearing 15%.
 - The students are taught the standard Haitian curriculum supplemented with Christian education. Joseph is an ordained pastor and visits each school every week to teach the students about Jesus.
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- A decorative blue curved line in the bottom right corner of the slide.

We need
your help

- In Haiti, as rural schools develop, they start with kindergarten and add a grade each year. Tapio and Douje both have room to grow to meet the needs of these communities.
- The US Board voted to fund a monthly budget of \$5,500. We need additional funds to continue to meet the need that God has laid before us.



Thank you for
considering
this request

“...Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:40

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ”

2 Corinthians 9

We pray that God will lead you to join us in this good work which God has placed before us.