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HAITI MISSION

Haiti Mission, Fonds-Parisien Newsletter

God knows Best!

BY JEAN VOLCY

The Haiti outreach is always on my mind and even more so lately because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its devastating impacts all over the world. So, I felt the need to go for a visit to Fonds-Parisien, Haiti (Aug 18-Sep 16, 2020) to see our kids at Notre Maison (the orphanage) and to encourage the church. I am happy to report that we had a great visit. The kids and our brethren there are doing well, all things considered. By God's grace, they have not had any confirmed case of COVID-19. God knows best! How could they handle that pandemic down there?



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Three Years of Solar

Apart from the Pandemic our folks down there had been experiencing some blackouts which were making things a bit more difficult for them. Their solar system had been having outages which the technicians believed was due to our overheated batteries. When we installed the system in 2017 in order to prevent the batteries (Gel) and equipment from being stolen we packed them in a small room under lock and key. While this protected them from thieves it didn't allow enough air in thus considerably shortened the life of the batteries. It's pretty hot in Haiti.



While there, we went ahead and replaced the 6 V Trojan gel batteries with 12 6V-Flooded L16H-AC batteries and moved the battery bank to a room outside with proper airflow. In order to still protect the batteries from being stolen we converted the battery bank into an iron cage with multiple locks and changed the doors and locks in that little room as well (see photo on right). So far, they have not had any problem. Everything, including our water pumps, pumps controllers, are working fine.

" Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.."

JAMES 1:17 (NIV)





...by God's Grace

Not able to be in Haiti all year-round to physically support the church, we take advantage of available technology to help as much as we can. We have set up a WhatsApp group 'EGLISE DU CHRIST DE FONDS-PARISIEN' of which all members of the Fonds-Parisien Church of Christ congregation have access. Every week, I prepare a 15-25-minute recorded Bible study and send on Fridays. This voice message is sent in both French and Creole (about 60% French and 40% Creole). French and Creole are the 2 official languages of Haiti. By sending the recording in both Creole and French we are able to reach a larger audience.



The brethren listen to these messages regularly, share their comments and questions. They also forward these lessons to their friends and relatives all over the world. From time to time, those friends and relatives send us their own questions and comments. So, it has been a great way to reach people with the gospel. We started this group in September 2019 (over a year ago) and since then, by God's grace, we have been able to prepare and share a lesson with them every week. As the brethren share their faith with others in the community, they often get questions for which they reach out to me for help as needed. So besides the regular scheduled weekly Bible study, we spend a fair amount of time together.

While I was in Haiti in September, two of the brethren were encouraged to go (September 5-6) help a smaller congregation located a 2-hour drive south, up on the mountains. I am humbled and pleased to report that they had four baptisms that Sunday. They had not gone visiting and helping that congregation since the start of Covid-19. Also, on Sunday September 13th during our worship service at the Fonds-Parisien congregation, the Lord added a new sister (Janet) to our numbers (see photos). Five souls in total were added to the Lord's church during our trip. Praise God!





Saturday Morning Kid's Club

The Kid's Club continues to be well attended. This helps bring in children from the community to learn and play with our youth while learning about God, the Bible, etc. They also share a snack during that time. The government had shut the country down for about 3 months due to COVID-19. So the Kid's Club had stopped all gatherings for about 3 months but now things have resumed. Please pray that this club may open doors not only to teach the children but also their parents about God and His church.



Lakeview Academy School Update

Like the rest of the world our youth at Lakeview Academy had a very interesting school year. Due to COVID-19 all schools were closed in Haiti from April to June. Classes resumed in July and ended in September (with exams) for the 2019-2020 school year. They had the month of October off, with the 2020-2021 school year starting the first week of November. We still welcome to our school a few children from the community whose parents would not be able to send to school otherwise. We hope to be able to welcome more going forward.





Notre Maison Update



Considering the great negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the world, we were hoping and praying for the best for Haiti but sincerely feared the worst. Because it is no secret that Haiti doesn't have the means to tackle such a terrible pandemic. We were wondering what would happen to everyone there and specially to our kids at Notre Maison. But once again, our God came to our rescue. Not even one confirmed case of COVID-19 have they had at the orphanage or in that town, as a matter of fact. Unbelievable! So life goes on down there while they continue to take as much precaution as they can. The kids and our brethren there are doing well, all things considered.



On October 23rd our oldest Notre Maison child, Alanca, celebrated her 11th Birthday. All the kids and dorm mothers joined the party (see pics). We praise God for His continued mercy and grace. Glory to His name!





Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Prayers Asked (our needs):

1. Prepare more workers for the Lord's vineyard
2. Pray that God will send more workers. "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few" (Mathew 9:37)
3. Pray the COVID-19 pandemic will subside & that Jean Volcy is able to spend more time in Haiti to help prepare more workers and advance the Lord's kingdom in Haiti
4. Build 4 more classrooms on top of the small 6-room school building. These classrooms are to be used for a Bible school, seminars, etc.
5. Pray that we will have the funds required to build these classrooms
6. Pray for the means to be able to welcome more kids to Notre Maison
7. Pray that we will be able increase our benevolent efforts in Fonds-Parisien and its surroundings areas. This will help open doors to evangelism

Prayers Answered:

1. Needed to plant the Church in Fonds-Parisien, Haiti (Done! Dec. 2002)
2. Needed a place of worship; Church Building Erected (2012)
3. Needed an orphanage building; Orphanage Building completed and "Notre Maison" (Our Home) opened its doors (2015)
4. Needed a school for the kids; Lakeview Academy opened (2016)
5. Needed electricity; Solar System received as a donation (2017)
6. Needed classrooms for the kids; 6 classrooms completed (2018)
7. Needed to replace the latrine; Purchased/installed e-Toilets from India (2019)
8. Needed safety from the COVID-19; Everyone is safe. Praise God!



UNDER THE OVERSIGHT OF

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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