

Update

Summer 2021



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
HarvestCall

Haitian Farmers are Catching the Vision

DAIRY MINISTRY CONTINUES TO PROGRESS

This is Bonie ► He is a Haitian farmer who lives close to Good Vision Farm, home of the HarvestCall Haiti Dairy program. Bonie has been listening and watching.

Farming in Haiti looks very different than in the U.S. One of the biggest differences when it comes to dairy or livestock farming is that the farmers are not used to planting crops designed to feed animals.

They will cut banana leaves and find native grasses along the way, find a green spot to stake a cow for a period of time and then move it frequently. But growing feed for animals is not a normal practice.

At Good Vision Farm, there are plots of introduced brachiaria grass and test plots of alfalfa and corn varieties which are used for ground corn as well as chopped silage for the dairy cattle. The Haitian farmers have been watching this progression for several years now. Bonie is the first farmer to actively embrace the techniques shown by the missionaries at the farm. In fact, Bonie has planted his own plot of brachiaria grass for his cattle, and he has built a feeding area

under roof for his cattle. He has been an active participant in all the educational programs that have been offered at Good Vision Farm, and his enthusiasm is encouraging.

continued on back ►



Bonie is eager to learn and is making improvements on his farm ▲

ANNUAL HAITI DAIRY BENEFIT DINNER

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 2021

Mark Your Calendars!

Missionaries Daryl and Debbie Knobloch plan to be present for this event and share their experiences with the ministry at Good Vision Farm.

The program will also be live-streamed.

For the most up-to-date information about the benefit dinner and to register, please visit our website at www.harvestcall.org/awareness-events

Questions about this event? **Email** HaitiDairy@harvestcall.org or call/text LuAnn Troxel at 219-508-3433.



◀ *The dairy is supplying needed milk to orphanages*



Lessons Learned From Establishing Churches in Japan

GOD IS SOVEREIGN ON THE JOURNEY

God commissioned Joshua to a daunting task. The promised land was in sight, yet work was to be done to accomplish the victory. "Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land..." Joshua 1:6

In 1951 Willis Ehle seemed compelled to a daunting task as well. What started with God's calling and passing out Bibles in a Shinjuku train station in Tokyo, Japan evolved into the establishment of two churches in Japan. Today, four Japanese brothers preach the Word. Brethren and friends enjoy gathering in church, and friends have started bringing their friends to church. And people are responding to the gospel message as evidenced through 25 members and three converts.

While God's faithfulness is being praised in the congregations today, the brothers and sisters carry a legacy of "lessons learned" to get to this point. Cross-cultural church planting has been challenging and at times painful through the years. What they have found, however, is despite the victories and failures, God is faithful. We just need to keep bringing our "loaves and fishes" and trust God to do the multiplication, according to his will.

In this article, we tap into the reservoir of cross-cultural church planting experiences through the lens of four Japanese believers who represent initial families in the churches. They were asked a series of questions about some of the keys that have led

to the establishment of the churches.



The Apostolic Christian churches in Shioda and Tokyo were built in the 1950s



FAITHFULNESS TO THE CALLING

1. It was unusual for Willis Ehle as an American to tell Bible stories in homes and have Sunday School. How do you think that interest bloomed into the development of a church?

"It was God's leading and grace that Bro. Willis was able to meet Mr. Hajime Utsuki, and later the Utsuki family enabled Bro. Willis' work."

"When Bro. Willis held Sunday School at the Utsuki's, it was about 5-6 years after the war so there was no TV, games, etc. for kids to be entertained, so many people (children too) gathered. What led to the development of the church was Bro. Willis' strong passion and faith, and support from the US."

"Seeds of faith which are sown have life and ability to grow. A small part fell on good soil. Bro. Willis had patience and had a special calling of God. He was faithful to the calling."

"Bro. Willis' personality and character captured the Japanese people's hearts. Also, at the time, Japan was trying to become like the U.S. both culturally and economically, and that played a part in the Japanese people accepting faith."

CULTURAL CHALLENGES

2. It is natural that there are cultural differences in planting churches with other nationalities. What were some of the cultural differences between the American and Japanese cultures that created challenges in our church's development in Japan?

"Bro. Willis' planting of seeds happened to be at a difficult time in Japan's history. He had a difficult position between the rapidly changing Japanese culture and the church authority over him."

"Cultural differences should not be forcefully changed, but overcome by respect. This takes understanding and patience."

"In the home I grew up my father was Shinto and my mother was Buddhist; there was a Shinto shrine where an offering was made every morning. So when they repented, getting rid of the shrine (handed down for generations) required lots of courage. It is still important to address idol worship, but it is difficult and challenging to be understood. A large majority of church members grew up in such households, and they are the only one in their family holding faith in Jesus and attending church."

PERSEVERANCE ON THE JOURNEY

3. Along the journey, there was a conscientious effort by the believers to persevere in their faith and continue their commitment to the church. What were some factors that led believers to this commitment?

"I grew up in a Buddhist household, yet I was able to go to Sunday School held at the nearby Utsuki home and was taught many hymns. I went to visit



The Japanese congregation in Tokyo praises God after November 2019 baptism. Seeds of faith have life and grow.

homeless shelters with American soldiers and sang hymns and gave out candy. Even as a child I recognized that they were doing something good. I think those experiences were the beginning of my faith. My faith grew little by little, even though my family was against my faith."

"Both the Japanese and American believers offered immeasurable support and prayers. But the most important factor was that some of us Japanese could gradually embrace what the gospel really is as described in the Bible and how valuable and precious it is. This could help us overcome pain and disappointment and rely on the joy and hope that is ours if we remain faithful until the end."

MOVING FORWARD

The Japanese brethren will continue reaching out to their communities to share the gospel and discipling current members and friends. In Tokyo, the church has partnered with HarvestCall to provide a Missionary English teacher since 2019, and they look forward to outreach through teaching English classes as a second language. God is blessing the efforts that started with Marie Inoue and now continue with Rachel Witzig. Today, there are over 30 students attending a variety of classes, and some are attending church services.

If you are interested in learning more about God's work in Japan, contact Makoto Inoue at makoto.adrian.inoue@gmail.com

From the lessons learned in Japan, we glean many wonderful teachings including:

- When God anoints his work, there must be obedient followers.
- God works in the hearts of people during difficult and challenging times.
- Cultural differences must be worked through with understanding and respect.
- The journey takes perseverance, faith, and prayer and support by the brethren both near and from afar.

BY THIS SHALL ALL MEN KNOW THAT YE ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YE HAVE LOVE ONE TO ANOTHER. JOHN 13:35

Serving God's Kingdom with Hammers and Love

CONSTRUCTION MINISTRY CONTINUES IN HAITI

A HarvestCall team recently visited the Haiti Construction Program to construct a roof on a church building in southern Haiti. This project was located in a very beautiful mountainous area near Hospital Lumiere. This project was not unlike many other team experiences—the team worked alongside HarvestCall Haitian employees, village volunteers, and the in-country missionaries to complete a church building that the local workers had started prior to the visit. While there, the team volunteers were guests of the Haitian community. They had meals together, they attended worship services together, they sang together, they prayed together, and they visited sick and shut-ins on Sunday afternoon. And they had plenty of time to shower loving attention on the children in the village, including lots of hugs.

At the completion of the construction project, a local church and community leader spoke, expressing thanks to the visiting HarvestCall work team. He said he had



HARVESTCALL GUIDING PRINCIPLE #4

The love of Christ and the glory and honor of God will be the motivation of our ministry, never to be diminished by self-promotion or pride. We will exemplify the love of Christ by working together in unity and godly order and in submission to God-ordained authority.

**Randy and Evie Mogler
and Gwen Leuthold
(on behalf of CEC)**



Update

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◀ Working together to build roofs for Haitian schools and churches ▶



◀ Lots of interested observers
▶ Making new friends



worked with many visiting work teams from the U.S. on other projects, but he was especially impressed with this team because they had demonstrated the love of Jesus as they interacted with the community while there to put the roof on the church.

The Haiti Construction Department is one of HarvestCall's oldest operating ministries. For over thirty years, many visiting volunteer teams have installed roofs on schools and churches in southern Haiti. Under this program, Haitian communities are required to construct the walls for their new building, and visiting teams construct the roof structure. Hundreds of buildings have been erected in Haiti under this partnership arrangement, and hundreds of U.S. volunteers have

been given the opportunity to experience cross-cultural ministry. As a result of this important HarvestCall ministry, hundreds of villages in southern Haiti have schools to educate their children, churches to worship in and a place to proclaim the gospel message to the community,

and countless cross-cultural friendships have been made. Almost all team members returning from Haiti after volunteering for a construction project return blessed and many express the thought that they had gone to help and received so much more than they gave during the week.

In the last two years, travel restrictions have been in effect for Haiti, due to political instability and demonstrations, and lately for the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of the scheduled teams have been cancelled during this period. Thankfully, the Haitian employees of the Construction Program have taken an active participation and leadership role during this time and have been able to construct roofs with HarvestCall-provided building materials and continue the construction progress. However, both the HarvestCall missionaries and the Haitian employees have missed the fellowship of visiting teams. They are anxious to return to a normal team schedule in the future.

There are several ways you can support this ministry. First, pray for God to be glorified as his word goes forth in the churches. Pray for the children being taught the gospel message in the Haitian schools. Consider donating to the Haiti Construction Program financially. And, please consider joining a work team so that you too can be blessed by this experience. Regular schedule

updates are published in The Silver Lining and online at www.harvestcall.org



▲ Church trusses under construction

◀ Showing love to the little children ▶



By Rod Wieland

Join Us

**AT THE PROCLAIM & SERVE 2021
MISSIONS CONFERENCE IN PEORIA**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 10
FROM 8 AM – 5 PM**

**EVENING WORKSHOPS
THE NIGHT BEFORE,
LORD WILLING!**

Total attendance and format may be modified based upon whatever the current COVID restrictions are at that time.

Learning to Love As Jesus Loves

PROCLAIM & SERVE 2021
MISSIONS CONFERENCE

**SCHEDULE, SESSIONS, SPEAKERS, AND REGISTRATION
AT WWW.PROCLAIMANDSERVE.ORG**

Providing Warm Comforters in Europe

CARING FOR NAZAREAN BRETHREN AND SHOWING LOVE TO POOR VILLAGERS

We are thankful to watch spring turn to summer, but throughout the warmer months, we aren't often thinking of how cold the next winter might get. For some in Eastern Europe, it is something they think about. Over the past several months, many sisters and other volunteers from many different congregations have pulled together to sew approximately 400 comforters so far this year. This is roughly half of what the estimated shipment will be this fall. Last fall HarvestCall sent 364 comforters – some adult, and some youth sizes – to Romania for distribution. Nearly all of them have been distributed across Romania, Serbia, Ukraine and Hungary. When asked how many more were needed, the brethren in Romania didn't want to put a limit on the need.

A truck load of goods went to a poor mining village where there isn't a Nazarean church. Over the past year the brethren in Eastern Europe have seen a significant increase in the number of converts throughout several congregations in Europe. How thankful we are to God that even during all the uncertainties and hardships that the pandemic has brought, that more souls are humbling themselves in repentance. We can rejoice that when the night grows darker that the light of Jesus Christ can shine ever more brightly to the lost souls around us.

**YE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. A CITY THAT IS SET
ON A HILL CANNOT BE HID. MATTHEW 5:14**

By Christopher Indermuhle



Taking needed goods to the poor in Nazarean communities

As brethren and others from the surrounding villages and countries travel to Antioch to get clothing, they are very thankful for what they receive. But this year especially so, because of the comforters. The brethren distributing the clothes said the recipients were more thankful for the comforters than the clothing. Some of the distribution has been slowed due to borders being closed caused by the pandemic but thankfully there have been some that were able cross the border and take comforters, clothing and adult diapers back to their local area. Not all these comforters are going to Nazarean believers. The brethren in Romania have been able to help the poor in their neighboring villages as well. Our prayers and desires are that through this example of showing the love of Christ to others that more can turn to God, while there is yet time.



Haiti Dairy

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

We hope by God's grace that it is also contagious, as it would be wonderful to have many more "Bonie" farmers. Other farmers are certainly paying attention. Bonie was the first Haitian farmer to ask to purchase an imported heifer from the cattle that were flown down in March.

We know it had been many years since cattle were imported into Haiti from the U.S., and it happened this time only by much prayer and preparation. We praise our Lord for the blessing of watching the cattle arrive safely at Good Vision Farm and ask for continued prayers that we follow the direction of the Spirit as we emphasize to the Haitians the joy of working together to provide food for their country. "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matthew 25:40



◀ Melanie and Solomon bottling milk ▼

Please remember that the goal of Good Vision Farm is not to be a large viable dairy farm in Haiti but rather a demonstration farm that performs research and methods from which the Haitian farmers and their community can benefit and learn to prosper spiritually and economically.

We are so grateful for the technology that allows fresh milk from local Haitian farmers' cows to be processed at Good Vision Farm. This milk is kept cold and pasteurized and bottled into half-gallon reusable glass containers several times per week, depending on the volume of milk that has been collected. There



are distribution points in the area for local Haitians and missionary families, and regular deliveries are made to area orphanages as well.

With the importation of better dairy genetics, it seems likely that this supply of milk can increase, and we are hopeful that much of it can come from local Haitian farmers like Bonie.

By LuAnn Troxel

Additional Ways to Give

Almost everyone knows they can send us a check or donate online at harvestcall.org, but many people are unaware of other creative ways to support HarvestCall missions financially, such as:

RETIREMENT PLAN – If you are over 70 ½ years old the IRS allows you to make a donation directly from a retirement account. The administrator of your account should make the payment directly to HarvestCall so the donation will be exempt from taxes. It's a win-win situation.

STOCKS – HarvestCall maintains a brokerage account making it easy to give appreciated stocks. You will receive a contribution deduction for the value of the stock and avoid paying gain on the amount of appreciation.

ESTATE GIFTS – Giving a portion of your remaining assets at your death provides you an opportunity for charitable giving when you no longer need the assets. This can be easily accomplished by naming HarvestCall as a beneficiary in your will.

ENDOWMENT GIFT – A donation to HarvestCall's Endowment Fund allows your gift to bless HarvestCall for years to come. Funds or assets designated for this fund will be invested and the income used to serve HarvestCall ministries long-term.

RECURRING DONATION – HarvestCall can help you set up a recurring donation or you can do so on the website. Recurring donations can be made by credit card or by bank withdrawal.

For additional information or assistance with any of these options, contact our office and request the Financial Manager.

STAY CONNECTED

Prayer support is needed in every part of HarvestCall work. Here are two ways to learn about projects, how to be involved and how to pray specifically.

Eupdates | Get occasional emails with news and info by going to the HarvestCall website (www.harvestcall.org) and selecting "Join our email list" on the home page.

Social Media | Engage with us on Facebook or Instagram for the most current information.



Facebook.com/harvestcall
Instagram at aharvestcall

HELP FINANCIALLY

Choosing "Where Needed Most" allows us flexibility to direct resources to ministries most in want. However, if you feel moved to support a specific project, just indicate that on the remittance envelope. If specified donations are greater than the need for any designated project, they will be rolled over to the General Fund.

An envelope is provided with appropriate boxes to check. Checks can either be given to your local HarvestCall Representative or mailed to:

Apostolic Christian HarvestCall
PO Box 3797, West Lafayette, IN 47996

Or if you wish to donate online, visit the HarvestCall website at:
www.harvestcall.org/donate

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