

# NPC Hearts for Haiti



## NPC Team 15 Goes to Haiti!

Very early on Saturday, January 17th, twenty hearty souls left Pittsburgh for what would be an amazing experience at the La Croix New Testament Mission in Haiti. For some, this would be their first time in Haiti, while others had been on earlier mission trips. I think they all agree that it was an experience of a lifetime that they would like to share with those who helped make it possible, the members of Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church.

## Rice for Christmas????

Many of you did give rice for Christmas during the alternative gift promotion and the January 11th Hunger offering for a total of more than \$5300! This allowed our mission team to give 2 gallon bags full of rice to 200 families in the surrounding villages along with 1 gallon bags of beans and cans of evaporated milk. According to Pastor Pierre, a 2 gallon bag of rice, a 1 gallon bag of beans and 37 cans of evaporated milk would feed a family of 4 for a month. Needy families were identified by the pastor of



each village and were given tickets for the food. Most carried the food home on their heads. Thank you, Newlonsburg, for your generosity. These people were not just hungry...they were starving!



## LaCroix Girls Receive Sewing Machines!

At the LaCroix Mission in Haiti, they have begun a specialized class in sewing. It is a 2 year program and there are about 25 girls enrolled. These girls make the school uniforms and earn a small amount of

money for each uniform. Thanks to Newlonsburg, especially the Blessed Piecemakers, the Women's Breakfast Group and some individual donors, we were able to purchase 17 treadle sewing machines. Pastor Pierre would like to give each girl that graduates a sewing machine so they can continue to earn some money to make a living. The girls will have to pay off their machines as they earn money on sewing projects. When they have paid off their machines, they are free to take them to their home. This "pay off" will enable Pastor Pierre to buy new machines for the next group of girls, so the project is perpetuated.

### Exciting Educational Happenings at LaCroix

Several of us who are current or retired teachers spent time in the Kindergarten and First Grade classes where English is being taught. It was exciting to see these young children count to ten in English. We also visited an after school English Club and enjoyed talking in English with some very



smart high school students. Being fluent in English will enable these students to pursue post secondary education or obtain jobs as interpreters.



**Our  
Hard-Working  
Construction  
Team**

While some of us were filling one and two gallon bags with rice and beans and others were updating pictures of sponsored children, our construction team was hard at work building desks and tables. The final count for the week's work was 36 student desks, 6 teacher desks, a table, and a teacher's storage cabinet!



**The Sponsorship  
Program**

An important part of our trip was updating the pictures of our sponsored children and giving them the cards and letters sent by their sponsors. It is such a joy to see how well the children are growing! We were able to photograph more than 50 of our spon-

sored children! Many of those on the trip were able to meet their sponsored children and some found new children to sponsor.



## Sponsors Needed!

Make a difference in a child's life! For just \$20 a month, you can provide a child in Haiti with 2 meals a day, school uniforms, and the security of knowing that someone cares about him or her. You will be able to communicate with your child, share pictures, etc. You have no idea what it means to these children and their families. One parent told a sponsor that they hang a picture of the sponsor and her family in their home and look at it every day! Below are some adorable children waiting to be sponsored. Contact Sue Billings if you're interested in becoming a sponsor at 724-733-2803.

