

NPC Hearts for Haiti



Fall, 2014

NPC Goes to Haiti!

For the first time in many years, Newlonsburg is sending a team to the LaCroix New Testament Mission in Haiti. The team of 20 will be working on construction, food distribution, education, and child sponsorship. Pictured below are the following: Back row: Susan Keaney, Amy Hieber, Ty Radcliff, Sue Billings, Janice Reywald, Terri Thornburg, Joyce Vernon, Bill Lukitsch, Kathie Lukitsch. Front Row: Stan



Billings, Janet Baumann, Judy Radcliff, Vivien Seely. Lying down on the job again: Jack Metcalfe. Not pictured are Rev. Ben Beres, Shelby Oda, Rev. Curtis Paul, Eileen Reywald, Alan Thornburg, and Barbara Rissler. Please keep them in your prayers.

Calling All Sponsors

Newlonsburg Team 15 will be traveling to Haiti on January 17th and would love to take your

letters and cards to your sponsor child. The cards should be no bigger than typical greeting cards and can contain your letters, pictures of your family and pets, paper money (\$5 or \$10 is suggested), and flat gifts such as hair ties or other flat inexpensive tokens. Please be careful not to include pictures of "things" that might depict your relative affluence.

Rice for Christmas????

Would you like to give a gift this year that will make a difference in someone's life? Consider the suggestion of Outreach and give an alternative Christmas gift. "What is that? you say. It is a gift card saying that you purchased something in someone's name. The gift is actually given to a third party. In this case the third party is the starving people of the seven villages at the LaCroix Mission in Haiti. Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, regularly suffers from tropical storms and hurricanes. Crops are frequently ruined by too much or too little rain. This past year has been a disaster and food is desperately needed. To quote Pastor Pierre in a recent update,



"All over Haiti, people are talking about one thing. **"We are hungry"** Food has become very expensive. As you know three years in a row there have been no crops. This year is due to the lack of rain. We have been blessed by all the outreach teams who had included food dis-

tribution in their budget and program. People are still talking about the blessing of the food distribution. One lady told me that she was worrying about what she was going to feed the children the next day when someone brought her a card to come to get food at the mission. Another one said, when I told her we are sorry we cannot give them any more than what we give them, **"Even if it was just one pound of rice, I would be satisfied."** This is just to tell you how the situation is awful. Unfortunately no more groups are scheduled to come till January 2015 therefore people have to wait till then for more food distribution."

Beginning **December 7th**, Outreach members will be at a table before and after each church service, where you can purchase a gift of a 50 pound bag of rice for \$25. In return, you will receive a card to send to a friend, relative, or colleague that acknowledges your gift. What a blessing your gift will be to a hungry family!

Haiti Summit at Hillside

It was a pleasure to have Pastor Pierre and his son Kerby join with 37 people representing 14 different churches from 4 states at this year's summit at Hillside Christian Community. Attending from Newlonsburg were Pastor Curtis Paul, Kathie Lukitsch, Judy Radcliff, Barb Rissler, and Joyce Vernon. After a brief introduction by Brad Barber from Good News Gathering, Pastor Pierre gave an overview of the current projects and those that have been completed. Kerby expressed his vision for working towards establishing a university at LaCroix, giving those students who desire to pursue higher education the opportunity to do so. The breakout sessions included the areas of construction, medical, education, and sponsorship where participants were able to exchange ideas, coordinate projects, and jointly develop strategies for the upcoming 2015 outreach trips. We were privileged to have Edvens Milius from the Child Sponsorship Office in LaCroix on hand

to explain in detail how the new Sponsor Child Manager website/database works. Edvens is currently residing in the area and is attending Biblical Life Institute, where he is pursuing further education in children's ministry. The next Haiti Summit is tentatively planned for September 26, 2015.

Edvens Milius Visits Newlonsburg!

Newlonsburg was blessed to have Edvens (aka Eddie) with us at both worship services on October 12th. He took the opportunity to explain his role in the Child Sponsorship Program. It was a pleasure to meet this delightful young man!



LaCroix Girls Learn to Sew

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. 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. He proposes to buy the treadle machines in Haiti for \$300 each and put them all in a room at the school with each girl's name on her machine. 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 him to buy new machines for the next group of girls, so the project is perpetuated. If you'd like to donate to this worthy project, let Kathie Lukitsch or Barb Rissler know.

Our Haiti Child. Obed Benjamin

By Kathie Lukitsch

In 1999, after hearing so much about the people of Haiti, I decided to join a group of medical people on a trip to the La Croix Mission. I was a foreign language teacher and not trained as a medical person. I ended up using my French and some self- taught Creole to translate for the doctors in the examining room. Returning to the US, I left a part of my heart in Haiti. The plight of the people to survive as children of God has always been etched in my mind. Pastor Pierre



had just begun a program of child sponsorship to give the children of his community a better chance in life. When offered an opportunity to sponsor a child in school, my husband and I jumped at the chance to give an education to someone. For only \$20 a month we could provide a child with 2 meals a day, a school uniform, shoes and schooling. I randomly picked a 7 year old boy who was just beginning school.

This child is Obed Benjamin. He is now 22 years old and shows what child sponsorship and nurturing can do. I began receiving about 2 letters a year in Creole and an occasional picture. I would write back to inquire about his family and tell him to work hard in school and trust in God. His letters to us always expressed his faith and his thanks. The last few years his letters to us were competently written in English. We received word this past year that he had completed his 13th year and passed his graduation exams. He is now taking a class in economics at the University and is hoping to further his education. With God's help and a little from us this will become a reality. We look forward to meeting our adopted son, Obed, and his family this January when we travel to LaCroix.





Sponsors Needed!



Check out these adorable kiddos who are in need of sponsors! Estephania (left) was born on October 22, 2011 and loves her baby dolls. Wiskenley (center) was born August 5, 2011 and likes to play soccer. Woodjina (right) was born August 21, 2011 and loves to dance and play with clay and her baby doll. Please contact Kathie Lukitsch if you'd like to make a difference in the life of one of these precious children.

The End of 2014 is Near!

Sponsors, please make sure your yearly sponsorship payment for 2014 is in the office before January 1

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