Bringing Light to Northern Haiti

Haitian Christian Ministries August Issue - 2021



Preaching and teaching the Word of God

Planting Churches

Meeting the Physical Needs of the People

Disaster

Thank you to Pastor Bob for providing the following information

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thank you to all who have reached out to check on HCM during the last several weeks through the assassination, earthquake, and tropical storm. We appreciate the prayers and support. All our staff are safe as are our pastors of the church plants.

After the recent assassination of the Haitian president Jovenel Moise, most of you read about the devasting earthquake that struck the Southern side of Haiti on August 14th, 2021, at 8:29 am - approximately 78 miles west of

the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince. This powerful 7.2 magnitude quake seemed twice as powerful as in 2010 that left more than a million Haitian citizens homeless. While the southern part of Haiti is not as densely populated as the capital, or even Cap Haitian, on the Northern side of the island, there are still many people who live there.

Two days after the earthquake, Tropical Storm Grace also hit the southern side of Haiti. The already difficult task of responding to the earthquake was made even more difficult with high winds and extensive flooding. The situation of the Haitian victims in the South are more



desperate than ever. They lost their loved ones, have been left homeless, and must decide whether to brave the terrible windy storm under weak tents/sheets or risk returning into the damaged buildings.

According to Haiti's Civil Protection Agency, more than 2,200 people are known to have died with more than 12,000 injured, and at least 344 missing. UNICEF estimates roughly 1.2 million people, including 540,000 children, have been impacted by the back-to-back disasters in recent days.

Hospitals in some regions have been completely overwhelmed, forced to treat patients in the open air or in stairways to avoid the foul weather. The overwhelmed hospitals in the hardest-hit regions are just the ones still standing after

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the earthquake. Many hospitals were reduced to rubble leaving victims to look for help anywhere they can find it. Some even headed into the capital, Port-au-Prince.

There has been some positive news. On Monday (August 16th), 16 people were miraculously found alive under

rubble four days after the earthquake and 500 aftershocks. There is word that 24 more Haitians were found alive on Sunday (August 22nd). Even in adversity and darkness our God always surprises us and performs miracles.

To bring Christ Hope and Christ encouragement to our brothers and sisters in the South, our leadership team in Haiti is well prepared. We remember our previous experiences during the relief effort for Hurricane Matthew which also struck the southern side of Haiti in 2016. We also responded then by sending a team and resources to help our Haitian brothers and sisters as best we could.



While our Haitian staff is increasing its meeting for a better response to this crisis, please pray for:

- God's provision and financial support for this trip
- God's wisdom to lead this trip
- The safety of our team to cross through Port au Prince and other dangerous areas and cities on this trip
- God's mercy on this Island exposed to many natural disasters
- Courage to endure any more turbulence in the coming period or season

At this time, we cannot send any people into Haiti to assist with relief. If you would like to financially support the disaster relief, there are a few options we would recommend:

- Donate to the HCM general fund. We will use any resources received to assist in our response. https://hcmin.org/give
- Donate to our partner, Midwest Food Bank. MFB is working to send additional food to their established distribution locations. https://midwestfoodbank.org/locations/haiti
- Donate to Mission of Hope. This organization was on the front lines during the 2010 earthquake, and we have first-hand experience with them. https://missionofhope.com/

"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord." Psalm 31:24