



Preaching and teaching  
the Word of God

Planting Churches

Meeting the Physical  
Needs of the People

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## Trusting in God's plan

*Thank you to Jack and Crystal Patterson for providing this article.*

The day before we were supposed to leave we got an urgent email alerting us to roadblocks and unrest all over Haiti, including Cap Haitien. We prayed, met with church leadership and then brought it to our team: Everyone wanted to still go.

When we landed in Cap on Friday, we were getting in

the shuttle bus when great commotion was happening on the road at the edge of the airport. Shattered windshield on a semi-truck was evidence that the road was blocked. Prayer & an hour later we got to the hotel. Not the most calming way to arrive, especially for the new folks on our team!

Saturday we went to the orphanage (Riviere Sable) and did our VBS program & sharing the gospel, delivering food and clothes as well. Highlight was handing out Bibles to each child with THEIR names in them.

Sunday was November 18, which is kind of like Independence Day in Haiti. It's the anniversary of a particular battle, but it was expected to be the "worst" day of demonstrations and such. We stayed at the hotel and streamed the Eastview church service online. The beginning of the sermon talked about the Israelites being in exile ... far from home ... different culture, different language ... I thought "are you kidding me?!" This was JUST what our team needed to hear, in more ways than one. I was sad the team didn't get to experience Haitian worship, but we felt it was best for our safety to stay put.

Monday we went to Haut DeHaine, doing the same mission (VBS, gospel, walking community to hand out food & pray with people.) Fantastic day in the Lord. No troubles! Tuesday we went to Difou. Same. Until we left. On our way back to the hotel – in the back of our large open-bed truck - we came upon a



roadblock. It was a tense and scary situation, but God protected us and we were able to get through unharmed.

Wednesday we stayed put, but Pastor Jacques and his wife Vanette from the Lory church came to visit us at the hotel. That was the ONE mission we were unable to complete since roadblocks prevented us from getting there. We were able to give them all of our supplies, the Bibles, the food, everything we would have handed out. The BEST part about that was that Willeme, our Mission Trip Coordinator, went there the next week and presented our VBS message – just without us. (He doesn't need us anyway!!) 😊

Thursday we went to visit the Welcome Home Haiti ministry, met up with a couple of our sponsor kids at Pillatre, DESPITE school being cancelled all week. Highlight though was getting to join a worship service happening next to the medical clinic. We got to experience Haitian worship AFTER all!!

Our team was reminded how to TRULY rely on God. We had to wait. We don't do those things much – or well – in America, do we? Grateful to serve, and to be blessed more than we imagined, once again.

## Food for Haiti

Earlier this year we told you about an opportunity that had arisen to partner with Midwest Food Bank, an organization based in Normal, Illinois, to provide food for our lunch at the Pillatre school. As a faith-based organization, it is the mission of Midwest Food Bank to share the love of Christ by alleviating hunger and malnutrition locally and throughout the world and providing disaster relief; all without discrimination. Midwest Food Bank produces and distributes Tender Mercies, a delicious and nutritious rice and beans meal product. Tender Mercies consists of high-grade rice, pre-cooked pinto beans, fortified chicken seasoning, and a soy protein. Each meal contains 13 grams of protein, 6 grams of fiber and 1 gram of fat per serving. The result is delicious food at the cost of 20¢ per meal offered to Haitians in need.

In a place where many don't know where their next meal is going to come from or eat only once per day, Tender Mercies is a great way to provide a nutritious meal. Together, Haitian Christian Ministries & Midwest Food Bank have distributed thousands of Tender Mercies meals in 2018. Thank you for your role in making this possible. In 2019, we will continue to live out the core value of Meeting the Physical Needs of the Haitian people through Tender Mercies sponsorships.

As you consider year-end charitable giving, would you be willing to sponsor Tender Mercies? A contribution of \$25 provides 125 meals for our brothers & sisters in Haiti. \$100, provides 500 meals. Our prayer is that God will provide for a 40' sea container of 20 pallets of Tender Mercies. A pallet holds 11,880 servings and a sea container holds 237,600 servings. If you are interested in donating to this cause, simply note in the memo section of your check or donate online at [hcm.in.org/give](http://hcm.in.org/give). Thank you for considering this opportunity to meet the needs of God's children in Haiti!

*Those who know your name **trust** in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you. Psalm 9:10 NIV*

***We Wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!***

