Bringing Light to Northern Haiti

Haitian Christian Ministries December Issue - 2021



Preaching and teaching the Word of God

Planting Churches

Meeting the Physical Needs of the People

Year in Review and a look ahead

As we come to the end of yet another difficult year filled with COVID and news of tragedy around the world, it would be easy to lose hope in the future. But we serve an amazing God who is in control of all things. We need to celebrate the success that we have seen this year, that you as supporters of HCM have made possible. The student bathrooms on campus have been completed and now are in use, roofs on student classrooms are being replaced, school has continued enabling hundreds of students to not only receive a hot meal daily but also a Christian education that gives them hope for the future.

The medical clinic on the Pillatre campus has received one of the highest evaluations possible from the Haitian Board of Health and continues to provide excellent medical care to the community. It is a clinic whose reputation has spread. Many patients travel long distances to be treated by the clinic staff. The clinic is now providing COVID vaccines to the community. A college scholarship program has been started (a dream of Pastor Manno and one also of Pastor Bob) where a handful of college students are now receiving a college education and a hope for the future, a way out of the poverty that awaits so many. We celebrate the successes while also acknowledging the struggles.

Life in Haiti is incredibly hard and over this last year has gotten even more difficult. Inflation is out of control, the price of gasoline has sky-rocketed, Haiti has seen the assassination of its president, gangs being in control in the Port Au Prince area, kidnappings of both Haitians and American citizens, a devastating earthquake, a hurricane, plus just yesterday a gasoline tanker explosion that has claimed the lives so far of over 60 Haitians.

HCM is committed to continue to provide ministry and hope to Northern Haiti. As a Board, we made the very difficult decision to halt all mission teams from traveling to Haiti as long as the "Level 4 Do Not Travel" advisory is in place. We know many of you miss traveling to Haiti and cannot wait to return, know that we are prayerfully awaiting a time when we can once again send teams to serve. Know also that even though teams cannot travel, that ministry continues to happen through the generous support of all of you. Thank you for continuing to support HCM. Needs are being met, lives are being changed, people are meeting Jesus and the face of eternity is being changed. Merry Christmas from the HCM Board of Directors.

From Pastor Boh

During our recent visit in the US, I shared with some church supporters that Pastor Manno, the founder of HCM, was a great man of faith and vision who wanted to see his community change and influence the next generation. Being supported by a missionary and committed to come back and serve his country, was a great engagement that was going to give birth to tangible outcomes after 36 years of ministry.

• After 36 years of ministry, 1,400 kids from Pillatre are educated and being fed everyday

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- 75 kids are being educated and fed at Lory, the second largest campus of HCM
- 50 kids in our Day care program are being fed in Rivière Sable
- Our new school in Haut Dehene is being supported
- All 8 of our sites have something new and something great

Today, many people are wondering, is there no end to Haiti's suffering? Why do these desperate people never catch a break?

Yes, desperate people do desperate things. Some people in Haiti are desperate to make money any way they can because jobs are difficult to find. It's not a surprise that some people are now turning to crime to feed their families, because they feel abandoned and marginalized and have no access to basic needs.

Today, the Pillatre Community could be one of the worst places in Northern Haiti if the church and the school weren't there. Where love shows up, or is placed above everything, desperate behaviors are gone. In reality, what Haiti needs now is not pity, but great investments in education, preaching the good news, and sharing the love of God.

What HCM wants is to see Haitians improve their life through spiritual, education, health and economic growth. If we continue to exist, because of your support, our churches can play their role in the Haitian community. The time will come for you to come back to serve and see what God is doing through your prayerful support.

Kenold

Many of you may know Kenold, one of our devoted and energetic guards of the Pillatre Campus. Kenold joined Pastor Manno in April 2006. He is the one who wakes up early and goes to sleep late to keep the Campus safe and clean. In addition to his job, he does farming. He has one daughter who lives with her relatives and attends the Pillatre School. Kenold doesn't like to enter the church, but always stands in front of the church with his shorts. When we ask him to enter the church, he replies "I am to watch over everything here so that you can worship." Kenold has a passion for his job and doesn't want to miss any event on Campus. In our human nature, sometimes we tend to honor our super staff more than those who put at risk their health for us and our kids. This year, our staff plans to honor Kenold at the Pillatre Church and provide him some new clothes.

"I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me". Matthew 25:36

