

## Celebrate Jesus of Haiti, Inc.

### December 2012

Happy New Year Dear Friends!

We blew into Haiti with Hurricane Sandy in our last ministry trip in 2012. Weather delays in Florida and then Port au Prince resulted in our arrival only two hours before a visiting dental team and we scrambled to prepare for them. But God is bigger than the wind and our team labored 16 hour days for a week to serve 500 patients. Most of you know Sonja has had hip replacement surgeries but the Lord touched her and she was able to stand alongside the team with no issues. We are so grateful for the visiting mission teams. A woman with a tumor came for help. She had been in constant pain for 18 months. Her entire jaw and all the teeth on one side had eroded. She was in need of immediate surgery, and the entire team pooled their resources to send her to Port au Prince to save her life. We circle in prayer at the beginning of the day and the end of the day, thanking God for what He plans and what He finishes.

While we labored in the clinic, Jerry built a 30x70' storage building which will serve as the distribution center for food and clothing donations provided by you, our faithful partners. No sooner did he complete the walls than the greatly anticipated container arrived. The precious cargo included 500# of peanut butter which will be a great treat for the 800 children you feed each day. The 82 plastic containers also held clothing, shoes, and school and clinic supplies. The cost of shipping the container was covered by a donor, and we praise God for the generosity of His people. Every gift, large or small, is noticed by God and written in The Book of Remembrance.

The children's clinic is on track for January startup and we couldn't be more excited. Furnishings, a new generator, roofing materials, and fencing for the clinic all arrived on the container. On this trip we hired a nurse and finalized the staffing plan. All of the ongoing ministry work is done by Haitians. Jobs are provided and self-esteem grows. American dental, medical, and construction teams volunteer their skills and time to enable the ministry to continue to grow and serve more people. Hard decisions always have to be made, and the Wisdom of the Holy Spirit keeps the American and Haitian believers in one accord. We determined that we will not be able to provide well-baby care at the new clinic, but we will provide immunizations and treat sick children. Dr. Zacky estimates that 400 children can receive help each month. Haitian children are among the poorest of the poor in the world. Without this clinic, many would die. One issue that kept us awake at night was how we would get the medicine. Getting meds through Haitian customs can be a nightmare of bureaucracy and added costs. But God has a solution to our every concern. While we were there, the administrator of a local hospital volunteered to provide the medicines and be reimbursed by the ministry for what we need. We praise God for what He is doing through everyone who helps the children, especially each of you. Please pray for the startup. Pray for strength and wisdom for the staff as they establish and enforce order, rules, and guidelines. Pray for their courage as they turn away adults so that neglected children can receive care. Pray for healings for the children and for supernatural ability to be given to the staff.

Hope arrived on the container in many forms. Not the least of which is 350 steel fence posts, 14 rolls of goat wire, and a skid loader. This spells “hope” on LaGonave because it will enable the 20 acres we call *The Promised Land* to become productive farmland where members of Celebrate Jesus of Haiti Church can successfully grow crops and provide for their families. Months of hard labor in the past came to nothing when cows, horses, and goats left to roam trampled down the fencing again and again and ate the crops. With this equipment, the ground can be leveled and another reservoir dug to collect rain water from the mountains to irrigate the crops. A sturdy fence will be built to secure crops from roaming animals. We believe that this 20 acres can not only supplement the food for our families but could provide enough to market. Please pray for Jerry and others as they prepare the ground and teach farming skills. Pray for the Haitians to absorb modern methods and practice them, be disciplined and diligent, and receive the literal fruits of their labor as a gift from God.



In our garage and then in a donated warehouse, Jerry labored for months to prepare for the container. He packed and repacked each bin. He measured and weighed and calculated and prayed. God leads us where we have not been before. People had to be hired and trusted to get the items from Warrenton, Missouri, to LaGonave, Haiti. It took two days for all the items on the 40' container to be offloaded in Port au Prince, reloaded onto small boats like the one in this picture, transported across 60 miles of ocean, and offloaded. Scary moments came when the skid loader (weight?) nearly sank in the offloading process. Great shouts of victory went up when it was finally safely on the shore. The Haitian people here have learned that good comes to them and their families through this ministry, and they celebrate with us at each step of this awesome journey with God. May the blessings they receive draw them closer to the Giver of Life.

We look back in amazement at all that the Lord has done in this past year, and we look ahead to 2013. Plans include building four houses on Campus 2 to provide adequate housing for our professional teachers. By God's grace *The Promised Land* will

be cultivated and the Sonshine Children's Clinic will open. Children will continue to be spared death by starvation and disease. Many will be educated. Please continue to pray for the children that God is raising up, and pray for us that we will leave nothing undone that He has prepared for us to do.

With great love and appreciation we wish you a Happy, Blessed New Year!

*Jerry and Sonja Dickherber*