



HLMS Call

Haiti Lutheran Mission Society
Box 22544 Lincoln, NE 68542 (402) 474-2063
www.haitilutheran.org

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The HLMS Call is
a Publication of the Haiti
Lutheran Mission Society, USA

The Haiti Lutheran Mission Society Needs Your Help!

In order to help us track our readership, please enclose this portion of your newsletter with your financial support or requests for information. This will allow us to make any necessary address changes, forward correspondence and material to you, as well as ensure that we receive your pledge. *Thank you for your continued support and prayers.*

_____ I would like to help sponsor a child to attend school and receive an accredited Christian education for \$130 per year.

_____ I will continue to pray for the HLMS.

_____ I would like to contribute to the HLMS general fund. Enclosed is \$_____.

_____ I would like to pledge a monthly gift of \$_____ to the HLMS.

_____ Please forward additional copies of the HLMS brochure. I need ___ copies.

_____ Please send a copy of The HLMS Call to this address:

(Please make your check payable to the Haiti Lutheran Mission Society, USA)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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HLMS and Orphan Grain Train Travel to Haiti by Jim Schmersal, HLMS Board of Directors

November 4 - 9, 2018 I traveled to Haiti with Orphan Grain Train (OGT) personnel Grant Schmidt (VP), Karen Mangels (shipping director), her husband John, and Doug Sunderman (board member). Traveling with us was Watson Marin from Omaha (who is from Haiti). We met Julie and Bruce Rearick from Children Around the World in Port-au-Prince Monday evening.

Orphan Grain Train has been delivering containers to Haiti for several years, but no one from their organization has ever physically been to Haiti. They wanted to go first to experience Haiti, and second, to meet individuals face to face whom they have been communicating with, as well as working on a mission project. They are also looking into ways to ship containers to Haiti for less cost. It is now costing OGT about \$12,000 to ship into Haiti, which is 2 1/2 to 3 times the amount that it costs to ship anywhere else that they ship to. OGT is working with Josias Marin in Haiti to establish their own receiving area in order to reduce costs to ship to Haiti. We met with Sandra from Hope for Haiti on Monday. Sandra brought in representatives from most of the groups that receive aid through her organization. Each of these people gave a small presentation as to how they are using the aid that they receive. The group included Pastor Thomas Bernard, who the HLMS is currently supporting. *(continued on page 4)*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

As I sit here this morning, several thoughts are going through my head. Certainly, our brothers and sisters in Haiti are in my prayers. Although little news reaches the main US press, those who are connected in any way to Haiti know the serious difficulties they have faced this past month. And though things seem to be settling down a bit, there is still great anger and unrest and the realization that things can go quickly back to the dangers they have recently faced. So I ask your continual prayers for Haiti, that God will protect, preserve and provide for this country. Also prayers that some sense of stability will be returned to the government and leadership at the national level.

Secondly, my thoughts/prayers turned to the church year. This past Sunday was transfiguration Sunday where we got a glimpse at the glory of Who is Jesus - true God and true Man - whose real glory is that of the cross, His suffering and death. Today is Fat Tuesday (no reference to my body mass) which means Ash Wednesday follows and the season of Lent begins. Jesus' words from John 12 - "This voice was for your benefit, not mine... But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself."

When we lived in Concordia, we would often have the stealth planes from nearby Whiteman Air Force fly practice flight patterns over our house. We usually knew they were coming because of a very recognizable sound. We'd hear the noise and look heavenward to track its flight. Jesus said the voice that spoke from heaven was for their benefit. The voice of God - His Word - speaks loudly during this season soon upon us. Hopefully, it's a voice we clearly hear. God calls the work of His Son glorious. The world and us at times might well ask - what is glorious about whips and fists and nails and thorns? What is glorious about a beaten and bloody body on a cross? What is glorious is what results from a bleeding and dying Savior. It accomplishes our forgiveness and salvation. Sin no longer holds us captives - for all our sins are carried to the cross. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

So what does that have to do with us - Haiti Lutheran Mission Society? I would underscore it has everything to do with us! To confess Christ as crucified and risen and what results from His sacrifice for us is the very message we bring to the world and for us, especially to Haiti. For all the work we do in Haiti, it is first and foremost about the work that Jesus did for all. That is what motivates and empowers us - Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

Enjoy your journey!

Pastor Jim Dahlke



Pastor Jim Dahlke

THE CALL

Published by the Haiti
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Contact: 402-474-2063

Web address: www.haitilutheran.org

F: Haiti Lutheran Mission Society, USA

Mail: PO Box 22544 Lincoln, NE 68542

The mission of the Haiti Lutheran Mission Society, USA is to minister to the spiritual and physical needs of the Haitian people, so that they might be won by the Holy Spirit to be disciples of Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 3:7-15

PRAYERS FOR HAITI

Spring 2019

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

For the safety of Dick Buethe, and Kim and Keith Waller and their teams who have all traveled to Haiti & for the work accomplished through them.

For continued wisdom for Rev. Jim Dahlke who God moved to become the current president of the HLMS.

Praise God for Hudson's work at Zion Church with the children's program and the impact this will have on the future.

For the new van the HLMS has been able to purchase for use by the orphanage! Praise God that the kids will now have safe and reliable transportation to school and church.

For the many ongoing construction projects including the new floor on the church at Coracess.

For our dear Haitian workers in our churches, schools and orphanages & for the opportunity to minister to physical & spiritual needs of many Haitians.

For your continued prayer and financial support for the HLMS Mission so that both bodies and souls are fed.

For the faithful leadership of the HLMS Board.

Prayer Requests—Please PRAY:

For increased financial resources to support the growing schools, including the need for more student sponsors at Good Shepherd Church and School and Cite Soliel.

For increased financial resources for the children's program at Zion Church.

For the safety of those in Haiti and for the stability of the nation.

That God would prepare the volunteer teams going to Haiti & keep them safe as they work in Haiti.

That God would sustain & continue to grow the mission in Haiti and give continued enthusiasm, wisdom and strength to its leader.

For God's wisdom and discernment for the board members as they lead the HLMS.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the HLMS will be held on Saturday, May 18th, 2019 at 9 AM at the office of Buethe And Associates Insurance Lincoln, Nebraska

HAITI TRIP

January 22 - 29, 2019

DICK BUETHE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HLMS



I arrived in Haiti and met with Pastor Thomas first thing. As always, I so enjoyed my time at the church services at Bon Berger (Good Shepard) Lutheran Church and School. I attended six services in all, including two on Sunday! The school has had a dramatic growth in enrollment thanks to the new classrooms we were able to add on last year. The population has grown from 320 to 628 students this year! The new challenge this increase in enrollment has presented is that now there is not enough room in the sanctuary for all of these students and their families to worship on Sunday mornings. Isn't that a great problem to have?! A solution was found by adding an additional worship service on Friday evening so everyone can attend each week. **We praise God for challenges like this!**

Hudsen Isador and I spent time getting updated photographs of over one hundred of the students who are dependent on sponsors for their school tuition. If you are able to support a student in Haiti, there is a need for more sponsors at this time. \$130 is all that is asked to help sponsor a child for an entire school year.

It was wonderful seeing the new bus that was recently purchased for the House of Love And Hope Orphanage being used to transport those children to worship on Sunday. It is always a blessing to spend time with these children and see their growth and wellbeing.

Shortly after I returned home from Haiti there was some civil unrest that you may have heard about in the news. I am grateful for my safe travels while I was there and grateful to hear that things are now more stable again in Haiti as well.

We could not do this important work without you. **Thank you so much for your support and thank you for praying for my travels!**

Dick Buethe
Executive Director HLMS



**Request a speaker
from the HLMS
to speak at your church
or organization!**

Contact Dick Buethe for more information:
email: rnnbuethe@gmail.com



Children receiving their French Bibles supplied by Lutheran Heritage Foundation

Greetings From Pastor Thomas In Haiti

Église Évangélique Luthérienne du Bon Berger
Delmas 75, rue Beauvais, Imp. A. Hall #10

March 7, 2019

To the board members of the HLMS and to all our donors and supporters:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
Grace and Peace to you from God our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good and his mercy endures forever and ever.

We are more than delighted to write you this letter in which we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continuing prayers and support. Currently the political crisis in Haiti is getting better. To God be the glory! Through him we were able to overcome the difficult circumstances.

By God's grace, even in the midst of these difficult times we continue to proclaim His inspired Word, administer the Holy Sacraments, feed the flocks, encourage one another and so on.

As you probably know, this year we have a very big change in our ministry. Our school doubled in number. Our student population went from 300 to 628 students. Our devotions on Friday mornings are one of our best worship services ever. What a privilege to be able to teach those kids the good news of salvation on a daily basis. Because of the attendance of our school, the church also is growing up. All the glory is to our God!

The purpose of this letter is to keep you informed about the progress and the challenges of the ministry and specially to thank each one of you for your continuing prayers and support. Without your help and support we wouldn't be able to make it. But together we can accomplish great things for God's kingdom.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Prayer for the continuing success and the progress of the ministry.

Prayer for the safety of our family members and the saints of the congregations.

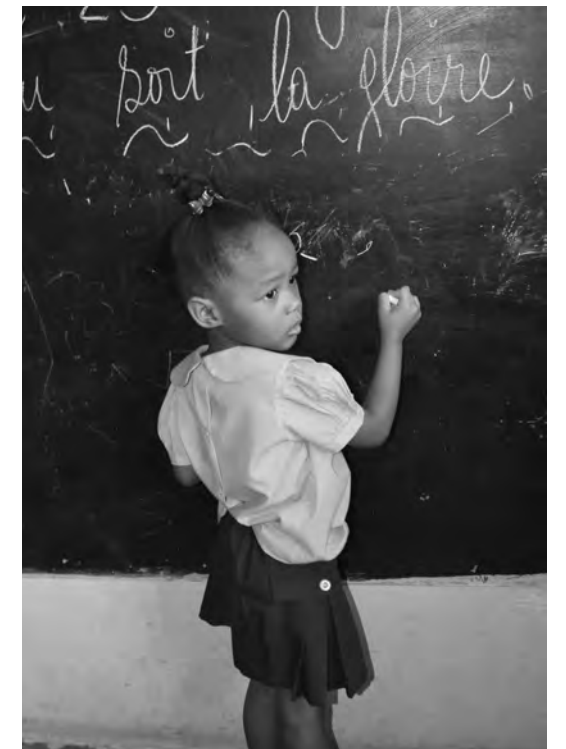
Pray that the Lord provide some more school chairs and desks for our school.

Prayer for the stability of our nation.

Thank you so much for all you do and if any one could sponsor some of our students, please do. By so doing you will be saving souls spiritually and socially.

Brotherly yours in the resurrected One,

Pastor Thomas Bernard



HLMS and Orphan Grain Train Trip Report (continued from cover)

Tuesday we traveled to Thomassique, Haiti where Josias and his father, Pastor Jean-Claude Marin, have a church and school. Traveling with us were Hudson Isidor, Israelson Isidor from Les Cayes, and a few other Haitians (including security personnel). Our purpose was to install playground equipment in the new city park started by the Haitian government but never finished. The equipment was supplied by Kids Around the World, paid for and shipped by OGT.

We first met with the officials of Thomassique, including the mayor, secretary of commerce and others. They welcomed us to the city and thanked us for our interest in improving their city by providing and installing the playground equipment to complete the park. We laid out the areas within the park to install the equipment, which included a large playground set, a swing set with six swings, a teeter-totter, two spring-tilt pieces and a stationary animal to climb on. Working with a few Haitian men from the area the remaining part of Tuesday and Wednesday we unloaded all of the equipment, dug 18 holes, assembled and leveled all of the equipment, and poured concrete back into all of the holes. Thursday morning we installed the spring-tilt pieces, teeter-totter, and swings onto the swing frame.

The city officials brought all of the school children from the area together into the park for the dedication of the playground equipment. Our best estimate was approximately 1500 children, plus 100 or so adults. The mayor, a couple of the pastors (including Pastor Marin), and the city's 'safety committee' (interesting) spoke. Prayers were said, the children (well behaved, by the way) sang a hymn in Creole. The playground was then christened and dedicated. The children were then allowed to play on the playground set. Unfortunately, the concrete was still too green for the spring equipment or the swing set to be used until Sunday. We did let some of the smaller children use the swings, but to a limited degree.

It was overwhelming to see the excitement and joy of the entire town. The joy of the children on the slides and the other parts of the playground set brought tears to us all.

We returned to Port-au-Prince Thursday afternoon. Friday morning, OGT personnel met with a lawyer and others to continue their discussion to establish their own receiving area.



BUCKETS...BUCKETS...BUCKETS!!!!

(The Waller's Haiti Team update from February 2019)

We heard this term "Bucket- Bucket- Bucket!" a lot from a Haitian woman at the work site on this trip. We were passing buckets full of cement to lay a concrete floor for the church in Village De Coraces! One of our team members did a devotion on buckets – the following is what I took away from that devotion and our time in Haiti!

Our Buckets are **OVERFLOWING WITH LOVE** for each other on the team, for our Loving Haitian Brothers and Sisters in Christ, and for all of you who gave of yourselves to provide answers to so many Haitian prayers! (through gifts of money, donations and prayers!)

Our Buckets are **OVERFLOWING** with **CEMENT** and **WATER** as we filled over 2/3 of flooring for the church!

Our Buckets are **OVERFLOWING** with the **GENEROSITY** from so many of you so we could purchase 11 TONS of food for 4 orphanages, 7 Pastors, a school and our many friends and hard workers!

Our Buckets are **OVERFLOWING** with **LOVE & SUPPORT** as we witnessed and participated in a Haitian wedding for our dear friend, Jean!

Our Buckets are **OVERFLOWING** with **EYE GLASSES** and **DROPS** for about 200 in need! Needing help to see close (sewing and reading their Bibles) and for distance! (We ran 2 eye glass clinics – one in a tent city church and the other at our friend, Lophane's Guesthouse, where he invited the neighborhood).

Our Buckets are **OVERFLOWING** with **FUN TIMES, LAUGHTER** and **SMILES** as we visited 4 orphanages and made beautiful butterflies with them.

Our Buckets are **OVERFLOWING** with **GOD'S PERFECT WORD** and **Timing** as we met twice a day together as a team to share with one another. **PRICELESS** times!! We also brought Children's Bibles written in French from the Lutheran Heritage Foundation!

"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also **OVERFLOWING** in many expressions of thanks to God!" 2nd Corinthians 9:12

We fill our buckets each day! How will you fill your bucket today? A kind word, a smile, a helping hand, a meal for someone in need,? What will your bucket be filled with? Some have buckets filled with anger, resentment, unforgiveness, and hatred! OR we can fill our buckets with Love, Gratitude, Joy, Peace, Forgiveness, ... Which do you choose today? May you always be filled with Love and Gratitude!!! That is our prayer!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR HAITIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST!

