

Dear friends,

As we approach the end of 2017, we want to celebrate, honor, and glorify the Almighty Lord who has allowed us to spend another school year crowned with success at all levels. This year convinced us even more that He is the Master of the work and that He is using you, our blessed friends, those working at École St. Barthélémy, me, and my family, as workers in His vineyard.

I want to express our heartfelt thanks to all of you for your prayers, accompaniment, and financial support for the children of our community. The Lord has called on us to do great things together.

Here are some highlights from École St. Barthélémy during 2017:

- The student population increased to 1,100.
- The number of employees increased to 107.
- We maintained our tradition of excellence which is reflected in the success of our students at the highest level - all our 9th and 13th graders passed their national exams.
- The graduates of our two previous classes are all in College. Four of them are studying Medicine and Engineering in the Dominican Republic. The others attend King Christophe University (not too far from Terrier Rouge) and Universities in Cap-Haitien and Port-au-Prince. Our graduates score high grades wherever they go.
- A new entrance to our school was constructed to facilitate those coming from the center of town.
- Construction has begun on a new staircase in front of the first building.
- The Marching Band (55 members) participated in various civic activities in our community throughout the year.
- Visiting teachers conducted seminars for our staff.

Once more I want to stress the necessity of your contribution for the development of the School. Scholarships are vital for us. It is a way to help extend our academic program to more children, the hope of the country. It is through education that we can eliminate poverty and create a better Haiti.

Please remember us as you are choosing your Christmas gifts. Honor a friend by giving a scholarship in his or her name. By doing this you will help a child attend school. Three hundred dollars will cover the cost of tuition, books, uniforms, hot lunch, and health care for a year.

May the Lord pour abundant blessings on you in this Christmas Season.

This comes with the assurance of my prayers,
Father Jean Monique Bruno



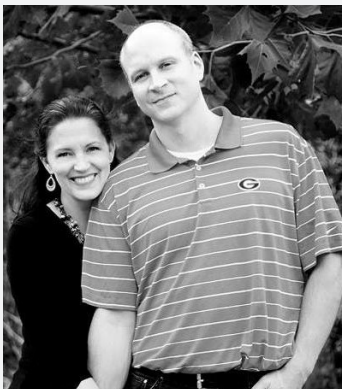
Thank you, Trey and Anna!

We took our first trip to Haiti in December of 2007 escorted by Peter and Berry Rice. In Terrier Rouge, we met Father Bruno and Marise Bruno for the first time. We fell in love with the community and the school children. Fast forward 10 years and countless memories later, we find ourselves ending our chapter as Co-Executive Directors.

Over the last six-plus years as Co-Executive Directors we have been challenged and blessed in so many ways. We could fill the pages of this newsletter with so many stories of joy, patience, perseverance, and success. Many new life-long friendships have been formed, and underlying all of it is a message of hope and God's love for mankind.

Bethlehem Ministry, Inc. is on solid ground with a growing, active board of directors leading it into a prosperous future. However, your support is needed more than ever. The new Executive Director has been hired and exciting times are on the horizon. Our family will continue as active volunteers and donors to this valuable ministry. We stay committed to Bethlehem Ministry and our Haitian brothers and sisters now and forever.

Trey and Anna Scott



Haiti is a country where health care is a luxury for many people. I am Jacques-Mary Saintus, the Clinic's Director, and someone who is committed to working for change in Haiti's health care delivery. I know that for the future of health care to change in Haiti, it must be driven by Haitians. Bethlehem Ministry works in partnership with us to make this dream a reality.

Being the chief administrator at the Clinic gives me an opportunity to be part of the implementation in the health care system. The staff and I focus our efforts on those people who sincerely need medical, dental, and vision care but who cannot afford it. I pledge to lead the Clinic, serving the people of Terrier Rouge as well as the impoverished in northern Haiti. We treat about 1,000 patients per month. Common illnesses include typhoid, malaria, H-pylori, cataracts, glaucoma, dental issues, etc. Many of the patients cannot afford to pay full fees and we discount the services or do not charge at all. We often travel to the underserved because just paying for transportation is difficult. We carry out mobile clinic operations in neighboring communities, and we provide follow-up care for them at the Clinic.

We are working towards improving our services and providing better health care in 2018. Your support is important for us to continue this valuable service. Help us build a healthy Haiti.

Yours in service, Jacques-Mary Saintus



Jatrofa Projenou

AGRO-FORESTS ARE LIFELINES

Three generations deep by two kilometers wide - that's how we describe the multi-generational families JP is working with on a mountainside south of Terrier Rouge. Each occupies what looks like a little village of mud stucco houses with lots of grownups and children about. By any measure of humanity these families stand tall, but economically they are extremely poor. The land they farm is degrading at an alarming rate due to deforestation and rampant erosion. **The good news is that reversing this situation with reforestation is very doable**, if trees are planted together with crops to produce food and family income. It's called *agro-forestry*. Currently, six families are planting in this way and the results are stunning - in the first year, trees grow 10-20 feet along with two harvests of food crops. All the trees including cashew, mango, mahogany, and eucalyptus are grown in JP's nursery.

One of the food crops these families grow is manioc, which they grate by hand into flour to make cassava, the flat round bread that is a staple in Haiti. To increase production, JP installed a small diesel-powered mill to make the flour. This increased daily production by 10 times, which means baking and selling more bread and with that an increased demand for manioc. All of this builds a stronger economy on the mountain, with more than 500 adults involved in the cassava supply chain. Lesson learned: a small but well-placed investment by Bethlehem Ministry goes a long way to lift people out of poverty and restore the capacity of their land to support them.

JP has a new people-to-people program, called **LIFELINES TO HAITI**, which matches a group of American families with a poor Haitian family to plant an agro-forest.

Here's how it works:

1. A group of Americans (maybe a group of families) pledge a partnership with a Haitian family to underwrite the cost of an agro-forest (\$999 by Sep 2018);
2. The Haitian family does all the work - terracing hillsides and planting 1,000 trees along with food crops;
3. JP will send you a video to introduce you to your family (we'll translate what they say) and we'll share with them any info and photos you provide.



Stressed land causes poverty and was caused by poverty, but it can be restored with agro-forestry.



One year after planting an agro-forest.



Rural families depend on the land.



Cassava bread



Lifelines to Haiti