



"God is good all the time. All the time, God is good."



Every time he has to preach, one of my former Bishops, a very loving man, a man of strong faith, begins his sermon by asking his audience to repeat after him the following: "God is good all the time. All the time God is good." This is universal truth. My Bishop has not invented it. It was passed down to him by Abraham, Moses, the Prophets, Jesus, the Apostles, the Saints, the Martyrs, his seminary professors, and his parents. It may be one of his techniques to get the attention of his people and prepare them for the sermon. But he does remind us of something that we live with every single day but that sometimes we forget to acknowledge.

God is good all time at Saint Barthélémy School. Ten days ago we blessed and inaugurated the first floor of the High School building, another proof of his love, bounty, and generosity towards us. Yes, all the time God is good. The continued work of the school and the other two ministries (Clinique Espérance et Vie and Jatrophia Pepinyè) in the community of Terrier Rouge is the living testimony of that truth.



On Sunday April 21, 2013, around 450 people from the community and other guests came out to praise the Lord with us for the big steps we have made by inaugurating the first floor of the High School and the second story of the Clinique. The Eucharist celebration was a solemn feast animated by the children's choir and the teacher's choir joined by a trio from Cap-Haitien. Following the ceremony in the big auditorium, the marching band led us to the High School for the blessing and later to the Clinique.

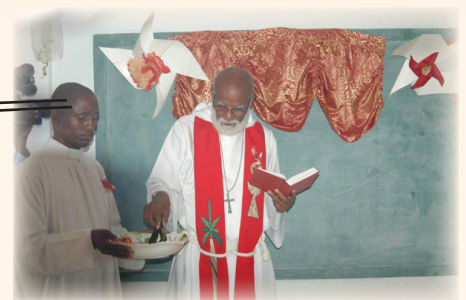
This new addition to the school allows us to have more space for our student population, estimated at 738. We have just registered 80 new three year old children for September. We will start the academic year with more than 800 students from preschool to 11th grade. God is really good to us. We are grateful to Him.



The 1st of May is the Feast of Agriculture and Labor in our country. Every grade has prepared an exhibit of all the natural products cultivated by the farmers. This is another big event in our school. All the parents and other people in the community visit this exhibit of which the children and their teachers are very proud.

We thank all of you for your strong and continuous support. Your prayers and generosity make it all possible. God is providing the means for His work through you. As we are moving toward the end of the school year, please remember to renew your scholarship so that your child at Saint Barthélémy may continue to have a solid and qualified education.

This comes with the assurance of my prayers,



Clinique Espérance et Vie

healthcare



There is a song I like to sing called, "We've Come this Far by Faith." April 21, 2013 was the dedication of the high school and the second floor of *Clinique Espérance et Vie* in Terrier Rouge. It was one of the most glorious occasions I have ever had the privilege to participate in. It gave me cause to stop and reminisce about the faith that so many people - Haitian clients and American donors - have in our clinic. From every walk of life, poor, rich, all different colors, all sorts and conditions of human kind, there was the expressed hope that *Clinique Espérance et Vie* will become the reference clinic for the entire region of Northeast Haiti.

I cannot begin to tell everyone how blessed we are to have the staff that is working at the clinic. Every single staff member came to the dedication and each one was so proud to claim the clinic as their own. Mes ami, we are making a difference in Haiti! But being the best comes with a price. Keeping this marvelous staff is a top priority and the need for salaries is at the top of our priority list.



Every day the staff is working hard to give the care that every sick person deserves, regardless of the ability to pay. On Thursday and Friday, we have people coming from the Artibonite region and south of Ouanaminthe. Many are lining up at 4:00 a.m. just to make sure they can see the eye doctor. Many are awaiting the return of our American orthopedic and ophthalmology teams. Our resident surgeon, ob/gyn, and nurse midwife met with us. We talked about the women's health program expansion. This will not require extra staff but will require equipment and medicines.

Toward this end, I traveled to MedShare in Atlanta with Trey Scott, Jeff Chambers, and 2 others. MedShare, a non-profit organization working to outfit medical facilities in the third world, will ship all the medical equipment and supplies we need to furnish our clinic's second floor, at a cost of \$20,000. We have already secured half of the funding toward this and it would be such a blessing if this could be matched. As soon as we have our matching funds, there will be a packing party where we all will rejoice in the furnishing of the clinic to make us, for sure, the very best clinic in the area.

We have come this far by Faith. Our hearts are filled with the love of our Lord who enables us to continue on our journey. I am so thankful for all of you who are marching on this journey with us. It is a Faith journey for sure. Without you this clinic would not survive and neither would many of the people in Northeast Haiti. Come and see!

Faithfully,

Berry Rice



Berry Rice, center, with clinic ophthalmologist, Carmelle Lucien, and clinic cofounder, Peter Rice.

Jatropha Pepinyè

economic and environmental sustainability



"*Grow and make what Haiti needs in Haiti*" is our mantra. We continue to focus our efforts on what we can make with the resources at hand to supply markets that are long lasting. Producing soap and biodiesel meet those criteria - the demand for hygiene and energy are beyond fad and will persist for generations, and the means to make them fall within the capability of the land and the people. Our soap is starting to show up in hotels, orphanages, and clinics throughout Haiti - all part of JP's objective to be Haiti's domestic soap of choice. When JP sells to Haiti, our Jatropha farmers benefit, our soap-makers benefit, and the local community benefits. As Americans coaching the JP staff, we are disciplining ourselves to act less like helicopter parents and more like equity partners, because independence breeds self confidence and self reliance in solving problems. Both are key to economic self-sufficiency and that's what we're all about.

Rob Fisher



A Pilgrim's Experience

In March, I traveled to Terrier Rouge with a group of students and staff on Spring Break from Mars Hill College, a small liberal arts institution in Western North Carolina. The five students and two staff members were enthusiastic about learning as much as they could about the challenges of Haiti and exploring how students at the college could make a difference there. We felt so fortunate to connect with Trey and Anna Scott and to be introduced to the work of Bethlehem Ministry. Students had the opportunity to assist with exam proctoring at the high school, engage in a food distribution in the villages of Phaeton and Paulette, to help carry supplies to the new second floor of the clinic, learn about sustainable agriculture efforts and Jatropha Pepinyè, and participate in the first stages of installing an irrigation system at the farm of Bethlehem Ministry's partner NGO. We also toured Cap Haitian and had a fascinating visit to the Citadel. Perhaps the most enjoyable experiences the group had were playing with the kids of St. Barthélémy's, interacting with the people of Terrier Rouge, and developing relationships with so many of the people that we met. Our trip lasted one week but surely will impact us for a lifetime.

Mars Hill College hopes to establish a long lasting relationship with Bethlehem Ministry as there seems to be great potential to positively impact Haiti and Mars Hill College students through the Ministry. We will continue to explore opportunities for internships, long-term volunteer placements, study abroad, and fundraising. Two of our students will return to Terrier Rouge in June and plans are underway for a second Spring Break trip in 2014!

You can read more about our day to day adventures in Haiti on Bethlehem Ministry's blog - www.esperanceetvie.blogspot.com.

Deb Myers

Director of LifeWorks Community Engagement
Mars Hill College



www.BethlehemMinistry.org

What Matters Most



Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

- Luke 9, 16-17



One of our favorite Bible stories to share with our children is the feeding of the 5000. It is a beautiful story full of mystery. How did so little food--barely enough to survive on--become a feast for those who needed it most? As kids sometimes do, ours want to know, "How could it have been? Come on, Mom! It's impossible for one basket to feed 5000 people!" There was a time when we would ask ourselves the same questions. But now, we have seen the Truth in that story come to life in Haiti. The transforming power of God's Love is the only explanation for the miracles your gifts have made possible in Terrier Rouge.

In March, we visited Terrier Rouge with a group of young people from Mars Hill College. We were thrilled to spend days with the school children and afternoons with our Haitian friends. The changes in the community are remarkable over the last 5 ½ years. There is a feeling of hope that is tangible. There is Love and Peace, and a sense of gratitude that defies explanation--especially when you consider how even with all of the excess in America, we often forget to be grateful.



The transformation in Terrier Rouge is the miracle Christ is performing through you, our faithful supporters. Your gifts are healing Haiti. And in return, Haiti is transforming the people who visit there. We watched in amazement as the travelers from Mars Hill College arrived in Terrier Rouge not knowing what to expect and left a week later with love in their hearts for the people they encountered and plans in their heads to return in 2014. The gifts that brought those young Americans to Haiti will continue to multiply as they tell the story of their experience to all who will listen. Perhaps the listeners will then pray for, and give to, and minister to the people of Terrier Rouge. And that is the Gospel alive in the world today.

*Peace,
Trey and Anna*



Bethlehem Ministry is a 501(c)3 Corporation.

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Making a Difference in Haiti