



SPRING 2022



PO BOX 48387, ATHENS, GA 30604

# ESPÉRANCE ET VIE

If there is a place in this world where the word “hope” is the most used, this country or town, or neighborhood, is Haiti. Please do not believe that I have toured the world or read all the books about all the cultures and traditions to reach this conclusion.

I made that assumption as a confirmation of my whole life amid my people whose existence is sustained by the expression “God is good, and He will provide.” Days and nights, at home, on the road, at school, in the dry season, absence of rain, in times of scarcity, in times of turmoil and so on, God will provide, and things cannot get worse.

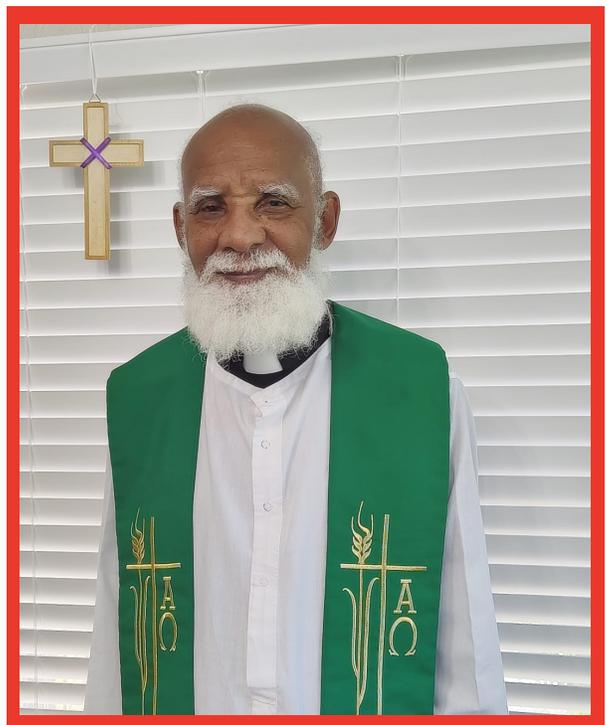
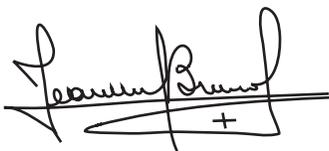
We believe in the cross, we bear it in our daily living, but we do not stay there. We move to the empty tomb where life is. The same question is always asked of me wherever I go: “How can your people survive the situation of violence, the misery they live in?” My answer is always the same. I refer them to the cross and the empty tomb. We believe that our sufferings are not forever, although they sometimes look permanent.

There will be a time when we will overthrow the devil incarnate, the bad politicians’ allies of the rich business people who are exploiting the masses. Our faith is strongly rooted in the Passion and Resurrection of our Lord. We believe with the help and prayers of our good Christian brothers working hand in hand with us we can overcome this evil.

We count on your prayers and your support for the Ministry.

In the name of all the people of Terrier Rouge and the name of the different employees at the school, the clinic, the organization, and my family, I wish all of you:

**“A JOYOUS AND PEACEFUL EASTER!”**



*Making a Difference in Haiti*



# JATROFA PROJENOU

In the last newsletter I introduced you to the cashew trees we've been planting by the thousands on small farms. Our dream is to do for the cashew what we have done for Jatrofa— transform its harvests into a commodity that will improve the economy and earn farmers a better livelihood.

Problem is, the cashew is the Brinks truck of nuts. Very difficult to get out of its shell. Nonetheless, when the men's Sunday school class at First Presbyterian Church of Athens, Georgia heard of the cashew's potential to improve lives, they decided there's no nut too hard to crack. They bought all the equipment to do the job, which will make JP the only processor of cashews in Northeast Haiti. The equipment is on its way to Terrier Rouge as I write. It is inspired generosity that has given us the wherewithal to not only grow cashews in our nursery but shell, package, and market them for the benefit of small farmers throughout the region.

In another bit of news, JP is wrapping up the construction of a store on its highway frontage which will improve the marketing and sale of all the sustainable farm products that JP helps farmers produce. It will bring sellers and buyers together and improve the farm economy. Remember in Northeast Haiti, farming is the means of livelihood for most people and when it improves, poverty is reduced. That's JP's mission and that's what we're working hard to do. On behalf of Haitian farming families, thank you Bethlehem Ministry.

*Rob Fisher* DIRECTOR, PARTNER FOR PEOPLE AND PLACE

Left to Right: Cashews in JP's Nursery, fruit these trees will produce, and ready-to-eat cashews coming soon!



Throughout the month of May, we're celebrating mothers with Kids for Change. For just \$25, you can honor a woman in your life by giving a woman in Haiti a chance at economic independence. Your money will support the initiative to give them young goats that will essentially be a savings account for the family, gaining interest as it grows. Women in the community can breed their goats to multiply their earning potential as well as provide milk and meat for their families. An adult goat can be sold for \$30-\$50, basically one month's wages in Haiti!

# BETHLEHEM MINISTRY



As Bethlehem Ministry's incoming board president I am excited, honored, and inspired. I became involved almost a decade ago working to help farmers with cash crops to both feed their families and to sell to their neighbors. And similarly with reforestation, to mitigate erosion on their hillside farms, while developing long-term income from fruits, nuts, oil seeds and lumber. Experiencing what we collectively accomplish in Terrier Rouge was transformative. Waking each morning to the arrival of almost 1,000 enthusiastic students assembling from the surrounding, grindingly poor neighborhoods, watching the long quay of patients waiting to be seen by clinic staff, and most especially working alongside Haitian farmers was inspiring.

St. Barthélemy is an educational bulwark, providing quality education to some of the world's most educationally vulnerable children. Educational sponsorships are a proven investment in the future of Haiti. The clinic has sustained a steady upward progression with plans for a sight-saving cataract surgical suite and to upgrade the ophthalmic unit's 20- to 30-year-old equipment. We are actively seeking support to add a second building as the clinic has long since outgrown its existing facility. JP's skilled Haitian professionals are providing leadership, knowledge and economic assistance to farmers adopting crops that nourish their land, feed their families, and provide produce for sale.

Bethlehem Ministry and our on-the-ground partners in Terrier Rouge have for 35+ years helped the impoverished citizens of northeastern Haiti help themselves by providing health care, quality education, nurture of local economic development, and as-need humanitarian aid. Bethlehem Ministry has a long-term record of helping Haitians improve their quality of life. If anything, their needs are greater today than ever. If you have the means to be more generous, we hope you consider doing so. Ideally think about joining our Sustainers Circle which is a commitment to monthly giving. While we are genuinely grateful for each dollar, I'm sure you can see how even modest monthly gifts, especially undesignated gifts that allow us to spend where our needs are greatest, help us make the most of each dollar.

Again, thank you for your support!

*Dan Horton*

President  
Board of Directors

SCAN ME TO  
READ MORE

1. Open the camera on your smartphone
  2. Hover over the code
  3. Tap the banner
- or visit <https://bit.ly/3jlkBxW>



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Dan Lyon Horton  
**Vice President:** Andrea Garber  
**Treasurer:** Rennae Henry  
**Secretary:** Lauren Harris Brown

Rachel Bruno  
Jean-Luc Franck  
Donna Henson  
Judy Hess  
Leigh Jones

Edwin Pierre Louis  
Carol McKay  
Trey Scott  
Tom Wilfong

## WELCOME!

William Do Nguyen  
Sarah Rice  
Anthony Tedeschi  
Moffatt Williams