



SUMMER 2022



PO BOX 48387, ATHENS, GA 30604

A TIME OF CHANGE & CELEBRATION



If you've ever walked the streets of Terrier Rouge with Father Bruno, then you have witnessed the direct impact he has made on those around him. As he slowly makes his way down the dirt roads of his beloved community, people wave excitedly and run out of their houses to hug him, talk to him, and offer him gifts. Children hold his hand or onto his pants and run beside him. They want to be in his calming, caring presence and thank him for all he has done to make life easier in their poverty-stricken nation.

ORDAINED IN 1972



This year he celebrates 50 years in the ministry, and throughout that time, Father Bruno has been a vessel of goodwill and selfless service called by God and empowered by you. Bethlehem Ministry has been blessed to partner with him for more than 30 years with many of you right by our side. We are forever grateful for your support of his vision, and we're excited to share his plan for the new leadership of Espérance et Vie.

1977 - 1990

Founded 2 Churches
2 Grade Schools
2 Professional Schools



Father Bruno is moving into an emeritus position in which he will continue ministering to those in Terrier Rouge and engaging with you all on behalf of Espérance et Vie. Sarah Bruno, Jean Robert Bouloute, and Rachel Bruno will fill three new roles to collectively take on the day-to-day responsibilities of Father Bruno while bringing new insight and expertise they hope will expand the capacity of the programs we support.

2001 Founded St. Barthélémy School in Terrier Rouge

2007 Formed Espérance et Vie

2009 Founded Clinique Espérance et Vie

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I want to offer our sincerest thanks to Father Bruno for his years of selfless and inspirational leadership which have forever changed the lives of countless individuals. He leaves an incredible legacy of helping others. We also want to show our unanimous support to the new leadership team. Each of them has a unique capacity to perform these roles because of their historical service with the organization and their dedication to its continued success.

Join us in this new leg of our journey. Show your support of Father Bruno's legacy by giving an unrestricted gift today which will allow us to put the money where it's needed most.



All the best,

Kristen Pace

Executive Director, Bethlehem Ministry



MEET THE NEW LEADERS



RACHEL BRUNO

Chief Operating Officer

Rachel has worked with Espérance et Vie in various positions for almost 20 years. In her new role as Chief Operating Officer, she leads the planning and development of Espérance et Vie's operational objectives and is responsible for day-to-day management of the NGO. She develops strategies and oversees the execution of plans to reach financial and mission-critical goals.



SARAH BRUNO

Chief Association Executive

As Chief Association Executive of Espérance et Vie, Sarah works to ensure all its activities support the mission of the organization while also serving as its spokesperson. She looks forward to traveling across the country to meet our donors and in turn hosting them in Terrier Rouge.



JEAN ROBERT BOULOUTE

Chief Financial Officer

Jean Robert brings 15 years of experience of finance to the team. He is responsible for developing Espérance et Vie's financial policies as its Chief Financial Officer. He provides strategic direction to all the organization's financial functions ensuring that proper internal controls are in place.

A NOTE FROM THE TEAM

"We are confident that together with Father Bruno's knowledge and wisdom, we will be able to take the organization forward. All this started with a vision that a young priest had, and for over 40 years we have accomplished great things. Now, with this trio, it is time to dream big!"



JATROFA PROJENOU

When I returned to Terrier Rouge after two years in May, I carried with me some worry about how I'd find the people and place we love. But when I got there, I found the school abuzz, the clinic with professional calm comforting frightened patients, and I heard Madame Sara singing at JP. My worries were dispelled! Now everyone was asking me about you, their friends, in the United States - seems they'd been worrying too. Longtime friends seem to do that.

Madame Sara had never been seen at JP, so when I spotted her in the tree tops overhead, I knew that everything JP has been working on was starting to pay off. Madam Saras are weaver birds and they live in woodland habitats. In my absence the tree seedlings planted three years ago had grown into full blown trees. And with them, a new ecosystem was taking shape - a forest-farm ecosystem, which supports more life, produces more food, enriches the soil and conserves water.

Over the following week, I trekked the hills to visit the families, who have been working so hard to create their own forest-farms that can lift them out of poverty. I couldn't believe my eyes. On farm after farm I found myself walking under a canopy of trees where there had been none. Even more amazing was everyone's pride to show me what had happened while I'd been away. I'd find them working their gardens, which are sandwiched between terraces they had built on their steep land. Cashew trees and pineapples planted along those terraces were in fruit. The gardens were full of vegetables.



One old woman and her entourage of family greeted me as I passed her little bark slab house. They had finished their dinner and were sitting around talking, but quicker than I could say bonjour, I was handed a plate of food. (I have to say, there is nothing more beautiful than the spontaneous generosity of these families who have so little.) They filled me in on the

last two years - told me some sad news, but being Haitians, lots of funny stuff too - like telling me that old pikwa and pel missed me when they were building their terraces (That would be pick and shovel). They laughed. Seems things were going their way - kids all in school, farm producing enough to make some serious money, and pointing to a pile of cement block, going to have

a new house. These accomplishments are huge and they are theirs to brag on. I left happy, knowing that they are in the driver's seat to a more secure life, and pleased that JP was able to show the way.



I tell you this story to thank you. You are the hidden hand that makes good things happen here. Let's keep it going. There are still children who want to go to school, there are still people who are sick and scared of dying, and there are still too many families who face terrible choices because they are poor. Madam Sara reminds us that a lot of good can happen in two years.

On behalf of Haitian farming families, thank you Bethlehem Ministry.

TREE SEEDLINGS PLANTED 3 YEARS AGO HAVE CREATED A FOREST-FARM ECOSYSTEM

Rob Fisher

DIRECTOR, PARTNER FOR PEOPLE AND PLACE