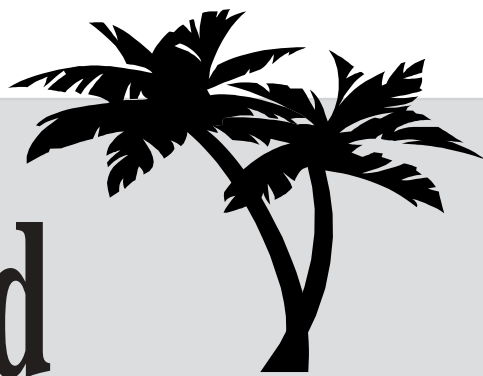


A Haiti Herald



April 2006

The Newsletter of Hearts and Hands for Haiti

Making a Difference

A mission trip to Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere, less than two hours from Miami by plane, can be life changing! It was for my husband Freddy and me.

Mother Teresa wrote: "The poor need us but the need we have for the poor is no less."

What a joy it has been to go on numerous trips with Stan Wiebe and to witness team members understand God's call to the poor and to discover their own need to be with those in need. Many have heard God's call to use their gifts abroad and at home. Eva Harris is an example. The following interview reveals her heart to "make a difference".

Eva, when did you go to Haiti?

In 1996. It was my first mission trip.

How did you happen to go?

I kept hearing Stan and others who had gone talking about Haiti and the wonderful joyful people living in poverty. I love helping people. And I was interested to see how

other cultures live and survive.

Do you recall your first impressions of this poor country?

Yes, I remember getting off the plane seeing and being surrounded by all these poor people – children patting their stomachs, begging for food ... clutching my pocket book. And I remember the smell. The smell of charcoal was everywhere.

What were your impressions as you left Haiti to return to NC?

I thought of being at an orphanage sorting through clothes we had brought for the children when Stan asked me to find two pair of shoes for two of the boys. He handed me two pieces of paper with pencil outlines of two feet. I realized this was my "measurer". I found the shoes. Several days later as the team worshipped in church with the children from the orphanage, I look down and recognized a pair of the shoes I had found ... and a bright smile. My heart was blessed to realize I had helped in even such a small way.

Another impression that stayed with me was the afternoon we rode along rough roads to Village 87 to feed the village a simple meal of rice and beans. So many people. So many hungry people without shoes, electricity or even water. Babies without diapers. The villagers were so grateful. So grateful. I remember thinking of my own very blessed life and of my family's blessing and wondering

are we truly grateful for what we have?

"My heart was blessed to realize I had helped in even such a small way."

Was your life any different? Did the mission trip change your life as you returned to NC?

Well, ... two things. I remember seeing a Haitian woman stretched out on a mat with her breast exposed and critically thinking, "She could at least cover herself." Then as I kept looking – as a nurse – I saw the signs of cancer and was convicted I should not judge or be critical of anyone for I don't know the situation or condition people live in. I think I returned less critical and more compassionate.

What advice would you give to anyone considering traveling to Haiti on a mission experience?

Go! It is an awesome opportunity to learn from others.

How did the mission trip affect your Christian journey back home?

It gave me a desire to be involved at home. I volunteered and led a ministry called Operation Dignity at our church. We help those in need with food, clothes and medicine. I wanted to just be there for people in need.



Eva (far right) making new friends at "87".

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Contact us to receive a pdf. file.

A Haiti Herald, April 2006

Making a Difference

The trip to Haiti gave me a desire to learn of other cultures, too. I went to Africa in 2004 and helped open a clinic. I remember, in three days, the team treated 350 patients.

I've come to believe God can use our gifts – whether it's in Haiti, Africa or Raleigh, NC – no matter how small the gift seems - like

(Continued from front)

finding a boy a simple pair of shoes. We can make a difference.

Article and interview by Helen Johnson, HHH Board Member

Next Mission Venture:

- Late September or October 2006
- Please consider joining us!
- Be blessed as you share blessings.
- Let us know a.s.a.p. if you want to go with us.
- Date will be set according to interest.

Giving Thanks!

- Haiti has been relatively peaceful since the Presidential election. Thanks be to God!
- Job, one of our older youths at the children's home, had a successful emergency surgery recently and is recovering.
- Madam Jean Francois underwent a successful major surgery and is recovering well. Good medical care is not taken for granted in Haiti.
- Revival services were recently held at our church in Sous Raille (the community devastated by Hurricane Jeanne in September 2004). Several thousand people attended and twenty accepted the Lord as their personal Savior. The church in this community

has grown a lot. PTL!

- How grateful we are for the financial and in-kind donations that we have received recently. (Thanks for the gifts of support! And the laptops, printers, backpacks, school supplies, toiletries, smocks, ... etc!!)

Please Pray For ...

- ... the children as they study in our various schools and prepare for the approaching year-end exams.
- ... Anthony Edmond, one of our children's home youth who is in the Dominican Republic and will begin med school on May 8th.
- ... the Haitian leaders of the various HHH sponsored ministries.

Upcoming Events

- A small group from Christ Covenant Church will be going to Haiti with Stan from September 21-25, 2006.
- The next team mission venture to Haiti is planned for late September or October 2006. Please let us know if you are interested.



April '05 mission team with Haiti friends.

HHH Tax deductible donations can be given to:

(USA) Hearts and Hands for Haiti, 2013 Midwood Drive, Raleigh, NC 27604
(CANADA) Treesbank Community Church, P.O. Box 112, Wawanesa, MB R0K 2G0

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