

Joy of Learning

On my trip to Haiti this past month, I was inspired by a special encounter with my dear friend, 73-year-old Momma Pere.

With every visit, I am greeted with as much warmth and enthusiasm as she would give her own family. In fact, Momma Pere is like family to me. Whenever I am showing wallet photos of my family to friends, Momma Pere's photo is among them.

This time, after giving me a big hug, Momma exclaimed with pride, "Stan, I can write my own name! Look, 'Araina'". I glanced down on the back of a photo gift she had placed in my hand and saw 'A-R-A-I-N-A'.

"Before I die, I want to read a Psalm from the Bible," she exclaimed. Her beaming face showed how proud she was of her attendance to adult

literacy classes. She leaned over and whispered in my ear, "I was first in my class!"

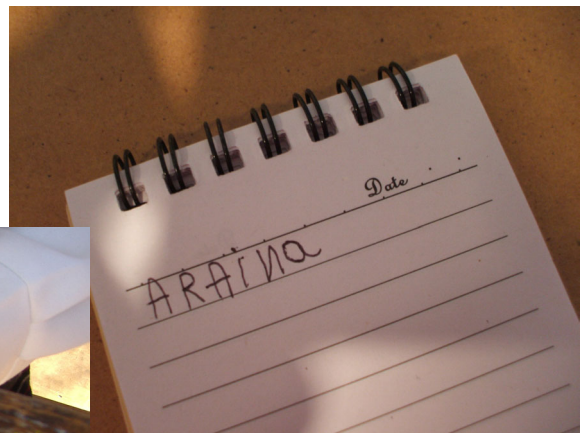
Thrilled, I quickly responded, "Oh Mommy, you will be able to read all the Psalms from the Bible before you die! I know you will."

Momma Pere then went on. "Years ago I needed to sign an important document for a man. When the man realized I could not write my name, he took my thumb, pressed it hard on an ink pad and then to paper....

That man won't have to press my thumb like that again. I can write my own name now!"



Momma Pere, proud to sign her name



What pleasure to see this remarkable elderly Haitian woman's face filled with hope and delight over her great accomplishment. Thank you, Lord, for giving Momma Pere such a simple joy in her later years of life! What an accomplishment! Beni soit l'eternal! (Praise the Lord!)

Stan Wiebe, Director

Adult Literacy classes are providing hope and encouragement to adults like Momma Pere at several HHH locations. These were established by Bruce & Jaye Hansen with Literacy & Evangelism International. This ministry focuses on strengthening Haitian believers and evangelizing non-believers by teaching them to read the Bible in their heart language. The Hansens have also been instrumental in establishing an advocacy organization in central Florida, Compassion Action for Haitians, Inc. What a privilege it is for us to see fruit of the Hansens' labor in Haiti!

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*Open my eyes that I may see
wonderful things in your
law. ~ Psalm 119:18*

A Haiti Herald, February 2007

Giving Thanks!

- We thank the Lord for providing a **special Christmas** for our many friends in Haiti. Through special donations, we were able to purchase over 200 Creole children's books titled *25 Favorite Bible Stories*, some Bibles and church benches. As well, funds came in to purchase 4 mopeds for our pastors.
- We are grateful for **God's protection and provision** for the group of 11 from IN and NC who recently spent ten days in Haiti. The electricians did a fabulous job of wiring the 1st floor of the vocational school. As well, lot of supplies were sorted and the woodworking tools set in place.
- While in Haiti, Pastor Bob Cannon from Danville United Methodist Church in IN led a **one-day pastors' conference** which was well attended and appreciated. Pastor Bruce Rogers from Raleigh had the opportunity to share as well.
- As a result of a large donation from one Pacot sponsor and the proceeds from the sale of scrap copper wire by another donor, **we are now able to feed every day** at



Students at Tarasse community school

our desert school in Pacot. What a blessing!

- The 14 graduating students at LePhare Primary School in Pacot were the happy recipients of **new backpacks**. Many thanks to Outdoor Provision in Raleigh.
- At the Tarasse Primary School, there is beautiful discipline and **eagerness in the children to learn**, despite the crowded classrooms. This school has a great staff under the capable leadership of Cherismond Delva and they are planning to begin a secondary school in the fall by offering Grade 7.

Please Pray For ...

- **Pastor Jeremiah** as he recovers from injuries sustained in a bad motorcycle accident. We are grateful that he is alive and that the Haitian Christian community has surrounded him with prayers and visits. What a beautiful thing to see!
- A **fair customs fee and the release of a large truck** recently shipped to Haiti by Indiana supporters. Of the two large trucks loaded with supplies and shipped to Haiti, we have retrieved one truck and the contents of the second. Sadly, customs is charging unusually high fees!
- The **director, staff, future students and development of the new vocational school** at Poteau. The construction of the 2nd story is under way with plans for the school to open in September 2007.
- Godly wisdom and discernment for **the leaders of our programs** as they direct their various ministries and staff. Please also pray for our Pastors and the

house-parents at the children's home as they disciple and teach these youngsters.

- **The youth that will graduate** this summer from the children's home. Please pray that we can find a good housing solution for these young men as they transition towards greater independence. Also pray for their spiritual growth and perseverance as they leave the sheltered and safe environment of the home.

Upcoming Events

- We are considering taking a group to Haiti from **April 11 – 16th**. This will hopefully include some electricians if the 2nd story of the vocational school is ready for wiring. Please let me know a.s.a.p. if you are interested in being a part of this group.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HEARTS AND HANDS FOR HAITI, CONTACT:

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