

"I will bless them and the places surrounding my hill. I will send down showers in the season; there will be showers of blessing."

Ezekiel 34:26

\$75

What Difference Can \$75 Make?

It provides a Haitian student with education for one year.

It enables a Haitian teacher to provide for his/her family.

It binds a Haitian community into a fellowship of believers.

It brings HOPE to the future of Haiti!

Dear Friends of HEF,

We have just returned from our latest trip to Haiti to visit our mountain schools. Our trip was productive in many ways. We were able to visit with the Parish Priests who oversee HEF schools, and we toured schools in six villages throughout the area while they were in session. Two high school students from my home church accompanied us and their eyes were opened to the wonderful effect that education has had upon the children attending our schools. We were able to witness the formal dedication of a new school facility educating some 247 students in Ascension Parish. This was an unbelievable experience.

None of this would be possible without the continued support of our HEF partners and friends. We are excited about our upcoming HUG conference to be held October 5-7, 2012, in Fishersville, Virginia. We invite you to attend and participate with us in our efforts to insure a bright future for HEF and the children we serve.



Sincerely,

*Mike Landers
Board President*

Board of Directors

Mike Landers

El Dorado, AR

mikeark716@gmail.com

Mary Jo Oliver

El Dorado, AR

komjo@att.net

Chris McRae

Fort Smith, AR,

cmcrae11@cox.net

George Brandon

Carolina Shores, NC

sgbrandon@brunswickfarm.com

Don Miller

Westlake Village, CA

d_m_miller@sbcglobal.net

Rob Crittenden

Daleville, VA

rob@rvwc.com

Seth Lovell

Charlottesville, VA

seth@olivetpresbyterian.org

Rev. Cathy Ulrich

Fort Smith, AR

culrich@sbcglobal.net

* * * *

Susan Turbeville

Executive Director

haitifnd@att.net

Haiti Education Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 10775, El Dorado, AR 71730
870-862-1252
www.haitifoundation.org



The Haiti Education
Foundation
will have a booth at the
General Assembly Meeting
in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania,
June 30 – July 7, 2012.



Financial Report

Budgeted:

\$43,000/month for scholarships

Funding Received for Scholarships:

October 2011	\$41,577.73
November 2011	\$23,826.50
December 2011	\$52,737.87
January 2012	\$56,769.95
February 2012	\$18,170.45
March 2012	\$42,566.41

Small Group Makes Big Impact

By Susan Turbeville

During the summer of 2011, the women of First United Methodist Church in the community of Norphlet, Arkansas, committed to support a small school in the very remote village of Cavanack, Haiti. St. Andre educates 30 children in Pre-K through 2nd grade. This school was created so that the little ones would not have to walk so far from home to receive their primary education. St. Andre employs three teachers and a principal at a cost of \$2,250 per year. In addition to providing the scholarships for the children, this women's group has raised funds to build new benches and tables and purchase chalkboards for the students. They also gave each family a new Bible.



In November 2011, Vicki Lambert, a member of this group and HEF Financial Secretary, had the opportunity to visit St. Andre. This visit was not easy...it involved a hike up a steep, rocky trail in the hot, tropical sun. However daunting, Vicki, accompanied by the late Frances Landers' youngest grandson, Jeffrey and I made the trip without incident. Along the way, we met an elderly lady who was traveling along the same path. Seeing that Vicki and I were loaded down and out of breath, she offered to carry a portion of our load. After all, her hands were free as she was carrying her load on top of her head. We declined her

kindness, but enjoyed her companionship.

Upon reaching our destination, we were greeted with singing and laughter. In a setting such as this, visitors are a rarity and word of our journey reached the mountain top before we did. Curious eyes peered through the doorways. We visited each of the classrooms, admiring the work of the students. The principal soon called all of the children to the courtyard area so that we could take group photos. Vicki presented the principal with some gifts for the children. The parents, who had heard of our visit, began gathering around. You could see the pride in their faces. It is a rare privilege to receive education, especially in a remote, very small mountain village. This place which has been established as their community school is also the place where they gather for weekly worship. In a country with an illiteracy rate of 52%, education brings HOPE and LIGHT!

There are many other HEF schools waiting to be selected for sponsorship. In an effort to make this a more attainable mission project, we have broken down our enrollment into smaller categories. For instance, your group can support the pre-school at St. Cypriene School for \$3000 per year. One hundred per cent of your donation is directed as you designate. If you have a particular dollar amount or a particular school in mind, contact us and we will help meet your request. We are anxious to provide you with photos and information. Our goal is to have all schools sponsored so that we can continue providing the gift of EDUCATION.

Many of you received a letter in January stating that we are experiencing a decline of about 10% in our scholarship donations. I want to thank you for your generous response. However, as you will notice in our financial report, we are still short of where we need to be. HEF has never been blessed with an overabundance of cash...but we have always been blessed with enough. It is in these times that we know God's provision. Please help us by reaching out to your church and family. This ministry has a long, successful history of providing education in Haiti.

Pre-school			1st – 3 rd Grades			4 th – 6 th Grades		
St. Cypriene	40 students	\$3,000	St. Cypriene	200 students	\$15,000	St. Cypriene	119 students	\$8,925
Transfiguration	75 students	\$5,625	Transfiguration	75 students	\$5,625	Transfiguration	41 students	\$3,525
St. Innocents	25 students	\$1,875	St. Innocents	60 students	\$4,500	St. Innocents	50 students	\$3,750
St. Thomas	45 students	\$3,375	St. Thomas	96 students	\$7,200	St. Thomas	70 students	\$5,250
Bon Berger	57 students	\$4,275	Bon Berger	74 students	\$5,550	Bon Berger	45 students	\$3,375

This is a partial listing of the opportunities for school sponsorships. The full list is posted on our website www.haitifoundation.org. We encourage you to call for more information. Our office number is 870-862-1252. We know that this ministry is making a difference in the lives of countless children in Haiti. The affects are far reaching and everlasting...Education brings HOPE.

Dedication of St. Nom de Jesus in Venant

By Susan Turbeville

I have had many opportunities in my visits to Haiti, but this past trip included an extraordinary event! We were able to attend the dedication of St. Nom de Jesus School in Venant. As is common in Haiti, this has been a long drawn out building process, but one to be greatly celebrated! A number of years ago, we were approached with a request to

build a new school in this rural village. To show community support, the villagers gave of their own time and money to begin making cinder blocks for the project. Subsequently, HEF applied for the D. Thomason Grant through the First Presbyterian Church in Shreveport, LA, for funding of this project. They graciously agreed to support the construction and the building began.

Venant is located on the southern coast of Haiti, near Bainet. I inject this bit of information to explain that since the project started, we have endured two treacherous hurricane seasons and an earthquake. However, the end product is spectacular! Following the earthquake, the parents of the children approached Pere Vil and asked that the roof not be concrete, but sheet metal. This construction

change was made as we had not reached that point of the build.

Today, 247 children are attending school in a new building. Just weeks ago, they attended a one room structure. Imagine the difference in their learning environment! This school is supported by the great people at First Presbyterian Church in Sand Springs, OK.

Together, we are making a difference!



REFLECTIONS: A First Trip to Haiti in February 2012

By Jackie Kossin, Johnson City, Tennessee

6 A. M. Light breaks the night. A full moon slips behind a curtain of swaying palms. Roosters are having their say. Squawking palm crows join the debate about this day in Bainet on the banks of the beautiful Caribbean Sea. Sights and sounds replay in my brain. Stunning panoramic mountain views have taken my breath away. Children, at this early hour, or even before, are making their way along treacherous mountain roads. Without clean water or power at home, how are the uniforms kept so crisp and unruffled? How dear they must be to receive that care. How precious are these children. I hear them, really, because thankfully my little digital recorder had worked. Once again I listen to songs that have welcomed us and French recitations that have charmed us. Can you hear those beautiful voices?



In Little Rock last year at the HUG Conference, I heard Flo Boggs, dear friend of HEF for years with her husband Harry, sing some of these same songs and tell of adventures with Mrs. Landers in the early years of the Haiti Education Foundation. Others shared so many stories. My heart was touched then by Pere Fritz Desire from St. Matthias Episcopal Parish; Pere Mardoche Vil from Ascension Parish; and Ancy fils Amie, HEF's man for all seasons; by Susan Turbeville and her unwavering, gracious dedication; Mike Landers' continuing commitment; and each of the board members. I thought, "This is something special." You know



what? I had no idea about that understatement!

Here I was, four months later, with our team of 8, in Haiti, first in Cherident with Pere Desire, then enjoying the fine, fine hospitality of Pere Vil in Bainet, visiting eight HEF schools in all and two families, and throughout our week's visit fabulously shepherded around and through every situation by Ancy. You cannot possibly know the improbability of this all happening for me or perhaps you do because of your own story. A beloved friend of ours at First Presbyterian Church in Johnson City, Tennessee, Pat Cosby, who had come to Haiti years ago with Mrs. Landers to work with Pere Albert, told me, "Jackie, you must go and see for yourself. God will take it from there."

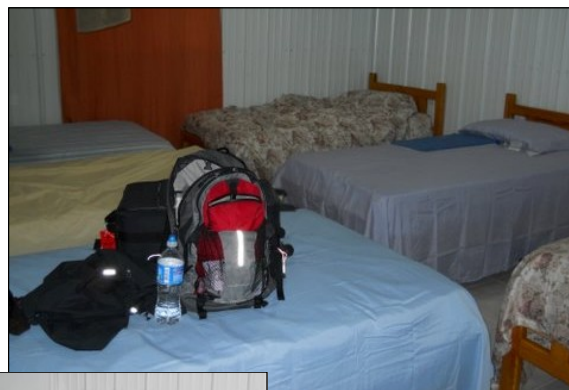
He does, doesn't He? He has.

The 6 of us from Johnson City are an interesting bunch led by Louis Imsande, our pastor, and cobbled together by God's great grace and perhaps His sense of humor, too. There's Dr. Bill Bridgforth, on his second Haiti mission, pediatrician and magician who caught the children's attention again and again with his bag of tricks; Dr. Allen Burleson, a dentist and purveyor of all things chocolate (!); Matt Jacobs, a construction contractor and the strongest and most agile among us, although he did run into stiff competition in those departments from Jim Williams, who's passionate about clean water and solar systems, this his third visit to Haiti; and me, the lone lady, well into my years, agile no longer, but capable, still, of great passions.

I was well attended by these old friends and new friends Rob Crittenden, HEF board member and historian with impressive command of French (helpful to us all), and Andy Travers, an intrepid traveler, both from Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church in Roanoke, Virginia. We did visit St. Timothe's Ecole in LaRivoir, the school they have supported for many years. We learned much from them, even as we, from First Presbyterian, consider mobilizing to take on a hands-on project in Haiti. That was the purpose of our visit...to assess possibilities beyond the modest financial support we have committed to HEF in years past.

There is so much more I could talk about reflecting on this, my first visit to Haiti, as many of you could about your experiences there. The spirit, the indomitability of the Haitian people, struggling, persevering against incomprehensible odds in every aspect of life command our admiration and respect at the very least. That we are one with them before our God leads us to love them and their children as Jesus showed us how to do. The children--oh my, their joy, their eagerness to learn even if they are thirsty and their stomachs are growling--stay with you, don't they? As Mrs. Landers said so many times, in them is Haiti's hope. We must never lose such impetus no matter the challenges, as work continues, initiatives take shape, and we commit anew to serve prayerfully, give generously of whatever gifts we have been granted, and follow passionately in God's will and way.

HEF Guest House Welcomes Missioners



We are very pleased to announce that the HEF Guest House is completed and fully furnished. The furnishings are hand crafted by local craftsmen and are very comfortable. To make arrangements for your mission group, please contact the HEF office.

WANTED: Terminal II Sponsorship

A Terminal II program was established at St. Matthias School in Cherident a number of years ago. This program is required for students to enter the University system in Haiti. Traditionally, students attending would have to move to Port au Prince at the end of their 10th grade year, find a place to live and work out how they would eat each day AND pay to attend a program which costs about the same as going to the University (approximately \$2000/semester). Believing that it was better for the students to stay in the mountains to complete Terminal II, Pere Alphone, a former priest in charge of St. Matthias Parish, suggested that we implement this level of education. It has been a huge success! The St. Matthias School was named one of the 10 best high school programs in Haiti. We are in desperate need of a sponsoring church, organization or family. The cost of the program is \$1,250/month. We are also very willing to apply for grants. For more information, please contact us at 870-862-1252 or by email at haitifnd@att.net.



**Look for HEF
in the 2013**

Alternative Gifts
International

Catalogue

The Future of HEF: A New Generation of Missioners

By John Lowery, Director of Students, FPC El Dorado, AR

Recently I had the opportunity to take a trip to Haiti with two teenagers from First Presbyterian Church El Dorado. It amazed me that instead of spending their Spring Break week on a beach, they chose to selflessly spend their time seeing the work in Haiti – something they had heard about all their lives but had never experienced first-hand. It was during this week that I realized how important it is for HEF to consider the next generation and intentionally seek to educate them on what HEF is all about. To make this happen, we have to rely on you. Anytime you have the opportunity to share the story of Hope about Haiti, DO IT! Encourage your teens and 20 something's to look at our web page and check out the Facebook page. The two teens from our church grew up hearing the stories of Haiti through the eyes of Frances Landers, and, like Frances, I hope that we all will take the opportunity to share the story and to keep this wonderful foundation alive for many years to come.



Emile Turbeville



Emile Turbeville, Caroline Callaway & Charlotte Bradley



Seth Lovell



Matt Snyder



Austin Shumate



Charlotte Bradley & Caroline Callaway



John Lowery



Jeffery Landers

Come Grow with Us!

HUG 2012

October 5-7
Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church
Fishersville, VA

Watch for more information on our website
and in our fall newsletter!

Please note our new mailing address:
P.O. Box 10775, El Dorado, Arkansas 71730

**100% Used
as Designated
by Donor**

TUITION:
One School Year \$75

"Your generosity brings God's people
from darkness to light. Light shines in
the darkness and the darkness did not
overcome it. Thank You for being
His light in Haiti!"
- Pere Albert

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
300 East Main Street
El Dorado, AR 71730

Current Resident or

Haiti Education Foundation

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
El Dorado, AR
Permit No. 139