

Volume 22, No. 2

HEF

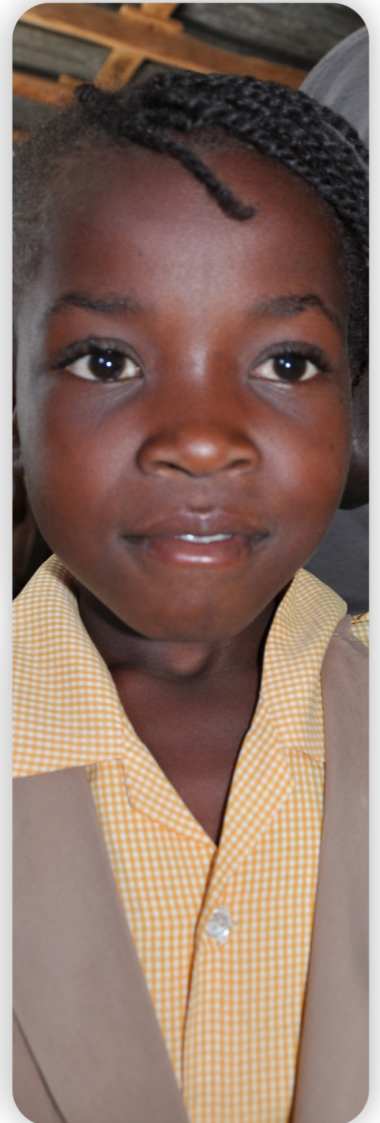
Fall 2014

*"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these
brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."*

Matthew 25:40

back to school

2014-2015



Dear Friends,

Another school year has begun in the mountain parishes of southern Haiti. Our HEF teachers and principals, which number 433 are again busy tending to the care and education of over 7,500 students who have the opportunity to attend school in their villages because of your generosity.

I am thankful for all who have joined in the support of HEF.

Opportunities to become involved vary greatly. Marsha Long explains in her article that, though one may have apprehension about becoming involved, the personal reward gained from doing so can be great.

As more individuals and groups join as partners with our schools, we have a pressing need to upgrade our vehicles to facilitate safe and reliable travel in Haiti. We are hoping to replace a transport vehicle with a four wheel drive built to better endure the rough mountain roads. Details concerning this need are explained within this newsletter.

My brother, Dr. Bill Landers, joined our parents in Leogane, Haiti, beginning in 1978 and worked alongside them during their many medical mission trips taken over a period of some thirteen years. His service to the people of Haiti and his support of HEF has been invaluable and we mourn his loss.

As you review this newsletter you might consider in what way you may desire to become involved in our effort.

Sincerely,
Mike Landers

Board of Directors

Mike Landers, President
El Dorado, AR
mikeark716@gmail.com

Mary Jo Oliver, Treasurer
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

Rev. Cathy Ulrich
Fort Smith, AR
culrich@sbcglobal.net

April Miller
Millboro, VA
ami1620497@aol.com

Jeffrey Landers
San Antonio, TX
jeffreylanders@hotmail.com

* * * *

Susan Turbeville
Executive Director
El Dorado, AR
haitifnd@att.net, 870-862-1252

Vicki Lambert
Financial Secretary
El Dorado, AR
haitifnd@att.net, 870-862-1252

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

www.haitifoundation.org



Mission: The mission of the Haiti Education Foundation is to provide educational opportunities to children in the mountains of southern Haiti.

Goal: To establish an avenue for giving where 100% of contributions go to the need designated by the donor.

Objective: To help Haitians to help themselves.

Operating Budget 2014/2015 School Year

\$32,161.00 per month
(Amount wired to Haiti for operation of schools)

Annual Budget
\$385,932.00

Dr. William (Bill) H. Landers

June 12, 1943 - July 25, 2014



Dr. Bill Landers, oldest son of Gardner and Frances Landers, founders of the Haiti Education Foundation, passed away at the age of 71 on July 25, 2014. He and his wife Lynn worked together with his brother Dr. Jim Landers and Frances and Gardner to provide medical care to their Haitian patients at the hospital in Leogane, Haiti over a period of thirteen years. While there, he screened patients to determine the cause of their blindness. Many lives were touched in his medical service. Bill was present during the formation of the Haiti Education Foundation and was an advocate for the work being accomplished in the mountain schools.

Bill is survived by his wife, Lynn, daughters Allison and Andrea and their husbands and a son, Jeffrey, and his wife. He has seven grandchildren. Jeffrey currently serves on the Haiti Education Foundation board.

A Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let me present you my sincere greetings in the Name of our Savior.

You can imagine how important your help has been during the 2013-2014 school year. You have allowed thousands of kids to go to school. Most of them could not have had this opportunity from their parents. Could you imagine what impact your help has been in the community of Cherident, and other communities throughout the mountains? Hundreds of youngsters are building their own lives. They are great persons. All of them went to school and are well educated because of your help.



This note is to express my gratefulness to you for your important work here, in Cherident. Don't ever forget that when Fr. Albert arrived here, he could not find someone to do a Bible reading. Now we have many hundreds of people who are well educated from Cherident, because of your help. You have to always know that you have done a great job. You must be proud of yourselves.

On behalf of all students of St. Matthias parish, the parents, the entire community and on my behalf I want to thank you for your support for 2013-2014 school year that comes to the end. Thanks and Thanks again. May God continue to help you so that you can continue to help others.

God's blessings upon you all,

Pere Frederick Menelas

Priest in Charge, St. Matthias Parish

Be Transformed!

By Marsha Long, housewife, mother, grandmother, animal lover...turned missionary

I am so grateful to Haiti Education Foundation for giving me the opportunity to visit Haiti in May 2014. I will say that I was a little apprehensive about visiting a third world country. I did pray that none of us would be kidnapped at the airport in Port-au-Prince and that we would not succumb to violence as we traveled to the remote villages to visit the schools. Also that we would not contract chikungunya (virus from mosquito bite).

Many fears subsided as we boarded our plane in Miami, full of Americans traveling to Haiti to make a difference.

In 2010, Vicki Lambert, financial secretary for HEF informed our United Methodist Women's group about a small school, St. Andre' in the village of Cavanack. The Norphlet UMW and the church prayed about sponsoring this school and decided that this was a mission project we wanted to be involved with. Vicki traveled there in the fall of 2010 carrying a large vinyl sign to be erected at the school, "This school made possible by the Norphlet United Methodist Women Norphlet Arkansas USA." After Vicki returned and presented her slide show of her trip, I knew I had to go and experience this for myself. The people are so gracious, kind and courteous. The countryside, beaches and landscape there are absolutely beautiful.

I was able to meet with the administrators, teachers and principals of the schools. Being able to look in the eyes of these people and these children and for them to associate us with their support is definitely life changing.

I encourage anyone with the desire to visit Haiti to do so; this trip enhanced my life in a variety of ways, mostly to not take advantage of our modern day conveniences. I pray for these teachers and for these school children who want so much to learn and to grow and make a difference in their country.

I challenge anyone to go and see what a difference you can make.

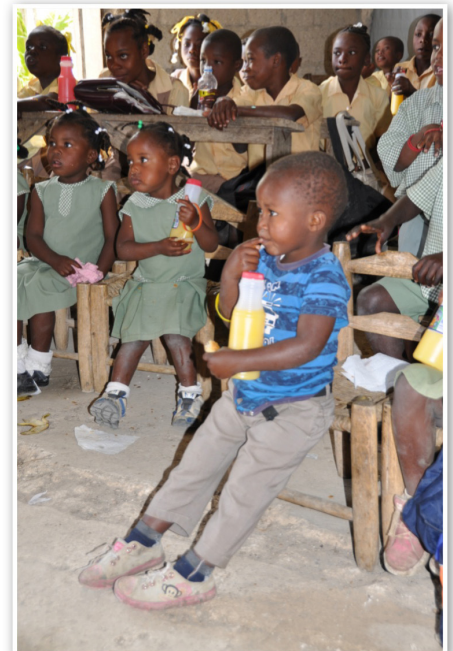
BE TRANSFORMED!



Sponsorship Opportunities

<i>St. Luc, Briesilien</i>	<i>\$665/month</i>	<i>\$7,980/year</i>
<i>St. Barthelemy, Barot</i>	<i>\$690/month</i>	<i>\$8,280/year</i>
<i>St. John Baptiste, Moreau</i>	<i>\$700/month</i>	<i>\$8,400/year</i>
<i>Transfiguration, Duvillion</i>	<i>\$450/month</i>	<i>\$5,400/year</i>
<i>St. Barnabe, Laval</i>	<i>\$690/month</i>	<i>\$8,280/year</i>

There are many more schools!
If you would like more specific information,
please contact us at haitifnd@att.net.



Mission Opportunity

We are continuing to encourage sponsorship of specific HEF supported schools. Our dream is to match each school with an American partner. This benefits the children in Haiti as well as the sponsoring church! We have heard time and again of the severe poverty of Haiti and that these people so often feel forgotten. A sponsorship creates a relationship between the two entities. This relationship involves two basic tenants; a financial obligation and involvement with the school.

Financial Obligation

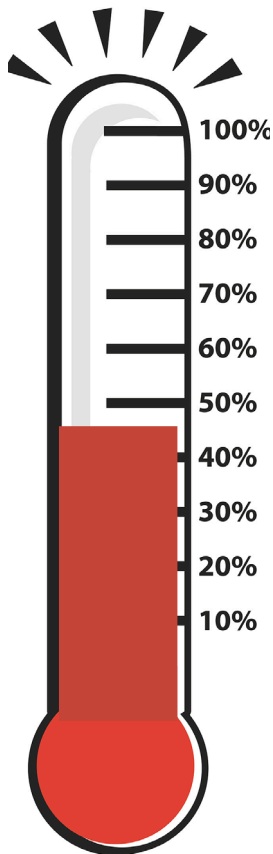
We are requesting an investment of at least 50% of the financial need of the school be met by the sponsoring church. Those needs are the salaries of teaching personnel and supplies. We ask that you consider a 5 year sponsorship for our planning purposes, but we do not request any formal written document. The sponsorship amount is a set amount and we will not ask for any increase within that 5 year period.

Church Involvement

Our hope is that a representation from the church will personally visit the school and meet the children and their teachers. This allows members of your church to see how mission funds are being spent.

There are many needs within each school. As your relationship grows, our hope is that you will be led to seek the specific needs of your school. This is not a requirement of sponsorship but an outgrowth of your investment in the lives of these children. If your church is interested in sponsorship, please call our office at 870-862-1252. Our email address is haitifnd@att.net. We can find a match for you!

Church Sponsorship of HEF Schools



Help us meet our goal of sponsorships for all 35 schools!

FPC Shreveport, LA

FPC Staunton, VA

Windy Cove PC, Millboro, VA

FPC Sparta, NJ

FPC Gainesville, GA

Church of the Good Shepherd
Lake Charles, LA

St. John the Divine, Houston, TX

FUMC Women, Norphlet, AR

FPC Fort Smith, AR

Raleigh Court PC, Roanoke, VA

FPC Sand Springs, OK

FPC Johnson City, TN

Tinkling Spring PC, Fishersville, VA

FPC, El Dorado, AR

Calabash PC, Sunset Beach, NC

FPC, Camden, AR

St. Matthias Elementary, Cherident

St. Thomas, Lavanneau

Notre Dame School, David

Bonne Nouvelle, LeBeau

St. Jos. D'Arimate, Pillard

St. Mathieu, Begin

St. Etienne, La Moth

St. Andre, Cavanack

Epiphanie, Morin

St. Thimothe, La Rivoire

St. Nom de Jesus, Venant

St. Innocents, Bellevue

St. Jean Baptiste, Hess

Bon Berger, Danot

St. Simon & St. Jude, Duny

Christ Roi, Jacmel

Please consider this great mission opportunity. Remember, 100% of your donation is used as you designate.

“Hope Personified”

The Story of Frances Landers

by Martha Abbey Miller

Four years ago, Haiti Education Foundation lost its beloved founder, Frances Maschal Landers. Two weeks before her death at age ninety-three, this amazing woman was still typing letters on her computer. Frances had countless thousands of friends across Haiti and the United States. In both countries, she left a legacy of incalculable value.

Leading a ministry that HEF is continuing today, Frances ended illiteracy for hundreds of thousands of Haitian children and their families. Over three decades, she made more than forty trips to the rugged mountains south of Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Her partner for most of those years was Pere Jean-Wilfrid Albert, the Haitian Episcopal priest who was dedicated to improving the lives of his impoverished parishioners. Pere Albert had huge vision and a huge laugh, and he was gifted in getting things done. He prayed. Incessantly. About everything.

“Whatever Pere Albert prays for, he gets,” Frances would tell others, with only a hint of exaggeration. She was a big part of his success.

Frances had a great heart for others, especially children. She was gifted in storytelling. Those who listened to her stories were a big part of her success. They gave hope, in the form of annual scholarships, to tens of thousand of Haitian children. Her supporters funded schools, benches and desks, teachers and principals, school lunches and supplies, a guesthouse, vehicles for Pere Albert, livestock, health care, clothing and shoes, clean water, commissaries, solar electricity, and more.

Across the United States, thousands have helped Haitians help themselves. Frances never took this generosity for granted. “This is not my mission. It’s God’s,” she’d say.

One of her favorite stories was about her first school in the village of Mercery:

Dr. Bruce Henderson of Shreveport, Louisiana, was among those working in the Léogâne hospital the week that Mercery’s school celebrated sixth-grade graduation. The teachers had planned a special ceremony. Frances was the guest of honor.

“When it was time to give the diplomas, one little girl was missing,” Frances later said. “She lived in a village about a mile from Mercery, and she had told her teacher the previous day she would like all of us to come to her village. She wanted us to see something and suggested that we bring her diploma.

“When we got there, she showed us a roll book and some materials that she had been using to help her neighbors get started. She had fifty illiterate adults enrolled, and she had begun to teach them herself.”

The adults began to emerge from doorways, with books and tablets in their hands. They held their work up to show Frances and Dr. Henderson the letters they had learned thus far.

Their need to learn was so great that they somehow found things to write with,” Frances said. “They shared a few old books. These men and women came out of huts with dirt floors, but the great thing was that they could read and write. This sixth-grade child was teaching them.”

In the village, Frances looked at Dr. Henderson. They were both nearly in tears.

“I tell Dr. Henderson so often that if he had not been with me I still would not believe it. I don’t know where the little girl got the paper and pencils for her adult students. It was an amazing experience.”

There was one story that Frances never fully told. Her own.

I am blessed to be writing Frances’ story, and grateful for the encouragement of Haiti Education Foundation’s board of directors.

My book is titled, “Hope Personified: A Woman from Arkansas, a Priest from Haiti, a Generation Changed Through Education.” It will be in print in 2015.

“Hope Personified” will be rich with anecdotes and stories, history and perspective, photos and images, challenges and successes. Your contributions can make the book even richer. Please don’t hesitate to send me your own tales, letters, photos, and insights.

If you’ve ever traveled to Léogâne or Grande Colline, I’d especially like to know this, including the year of your first trip and who you went with; I’m preparing a special appendix of Travelers and Partners. Frances would have wanted, through me, to thank you one more time.

I’ll be delighted to hear from you at martha.a.miller@sbcglobal.net or 818-309-9678. My website, marthaabbeymiller.com, shares updates on my progress of writing “Hope Personified.”

Thank you for supporting HEF and those in the mountains of Haiti who continue to need our help.

Avoid the Bite!

Chikungunya Virus in Haiti

Susan Turbeville



Many have heard of the virus spreading across the Carribean Islands which is contracted by mosquito bites...the Chikungunya Virus. Haiti has been hit hard. The virus manifests itself with high fever and aches similar to the flu. In the weeks and sometimes months following, severe joint pain lingers. In some situations, the pain is debilitating. All of the priests serving our schools in Haiti have had the virus, as well as many of their family members, our teachers and students. I, also, had the misfortune of contracting the virus while in Haiti during the month of May. Of the six on our trip, I was the only one to fall ill. The virus is still very active in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

For this reason, we have posted an alert for all mission travelers. It reads as follows:

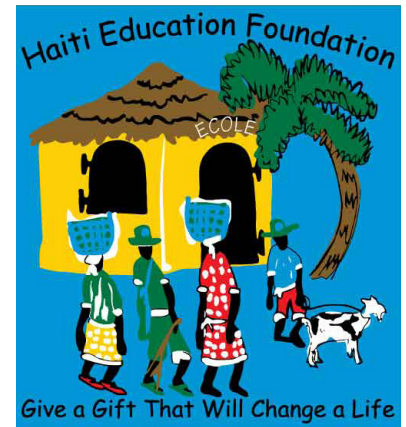
****Health Alert****

Please be advised that the Chikungunya Virus is present in Haiti and throughout the Caribbean. Please take every precaution to avoid being bitten by mosquitos. It is suggested that you sleep under a mosquito net, use mosquito repellants, and wear proper clothing to avoid the bites. Be aware of areas where there is standing water or other mosquito attractants. The symptoms of the Chikungunya Virus are fever and pain in the joints. Some have reported a rash. The medical community is treating with Tylenol and plenty of water to maintain hydration.

Mission groups are continuing their travel plans with caution. Please be aware, wherever you are, as there have been cases reported in the United States.

HEF T-Shirts are available on our website for \$15.00!

Visit
www.haitifoundation.org
to order yours!



**Great way to
keep up with
everyone in
your mission
group!**

One Year Scholarship for a Child... \$75



VEHICLE NEED

As many travel to Haiti to visit schools and monitor projects, we are in great need of replacing one of our trucks. The roads are extremely rough and take a great toll on the vehicles. Our missionaries' safety is of utmost importance while they are in country. If you are interested in donating toward this purchase, please call the HEF office at 870.862.1252 for more information.

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

**100% Used
as Designated
by Donor**

**TUITION:
One School Year - \$75**

Current Resident or



*"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

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