

Volume 26, No. 1

HEF

Spring 2018

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you."

John 15:16

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



CELEBRATING THE REBUILDING OF ST. MATTHIAS HIGH SCHOOL

"The earthquake happened on the second Tuesday of January 2010.
The dedication of the new school took place on the second Tuesday of January 2018.

Same day...same month....simply symbolic."

- Ancy Fils Aime

Dear Friends of Haiti,

On January 9, 2018, a wonderful celebration took place in the mountains of St. Matthias Parish, Haiti. Hundreds of school children and the teachers of the small village of Cherident gathered in the courtyard of their new school rebuilt from the ashes of the devastating earthquake of 2010 that totally destroyed the school and threatened the existence of the village itself. This event is an example of what can be accomplished through the generosity of those who support the Haiti Education Foundation.



Over the past several months numerous churches and other charitable groups have formed new sponsor relationships with individual schools which are served by HEF. These partnerships ensure that the children of that school are provided a quality education and that their teachers and administrators are paid. The donor organization is able to develop a relationship with the children through communication and personal visits to their school...a "win/win" for all involved.

God has truly blessed this effort and we are thankful to Him and all who have joined with us in helping to provide educational opportunities for Haiti's children. We really do appreciate your support.

In Christ,

Mike Landers
President, HEF



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 2017/2018 School Year

Budget increase due to teacher pay raise to meet government requirement.

\$36,000.00 per month	\$432,000.00
(Amount wired to Haiti for operation of schools)	
\$150.00 per month	\$1,800.00
(Cost of sending and receiving wire transfer)	
Annual Budget.....	\$433,800.00

Board of Directors

Mike Landers, President
El Dorado, AR
mikeark7577@gmail.com

Mary Jo Oliver, Treasurer
El Dorado, AR
komjo@att.net

Chris McRae
Fort Smith, AR
chrismcrae11@gmail.com

George Brandon
Carolina Shores, NC
sgbrandon@brunswickfarm.com

Rob Crittenden
Daleville, VA
rob@rvwc.com

Rev. Cathy Ulrich
Akron, OH
culrich@sbcglobal.net

Jeffrey Landers
San Antonio, TX
jeffreylanders@hotmail.com

* * * *

Susan Turbeville
Executive Director
El Dorado, AR
haitifnd@att.net, 870-866-8618

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
870-866-8618
www.haitifoundation.org



HUG: Haiti United Gathering 2017



In October of 2017, more than 70 people from all parts of the United States came to Shreveport, Louisiana, to the Haiti United Gathering. Representing Haiti were Pere Frederick Menelas, priest in charge of St. Matthias Parish, his wife Wisland and their youngest daughter, Ancy Fils Aime, HEF Liaison in Haiti, and Girbson Bijou, a former HEF school graduate. Representing HEF were Mike Landers, Mary Jo Oliver, Chris McRae and Rob Crittenden who serve on the Board of Directors, Vicki Lambert, financial secretary and Susan Turbeville, director. Partnering organizations represented were Trinity Hope Feeding director Keith Logan, Haiti Healthcare Partners director Sara Simineuvic, and Living Waters for the World/Solar Under the Sun representative Chris McRae. Martha Miller, author of HOPE Personified: Frances Maschal Landers signed books and performed her one woman act “Frances Landers” and Steve and Harry Lance provided special music for our guests.

During our time together, we heard of the great impact education has made on the families living in the small villages where we serve. Pere Fred and Ancy encouraged us in our efforts. Girbson told his story of growing up in a small village and the difference education has made in his life. Shelby Guilbert of First Presbyterian Church, Shreveport and Mickey Quinlan of St. Paul’s Episcopal in Shreveport told about their experience in partnering to support St. Matthias Pre-School and Elementary, as well as the feeding program. Each of our partners shared about their work and gave opportunities to take part in their ministries in Haiti. Many stories were shared and connections made! We had representatives from “the early days” (Fran Hobbs and Flo Boggs) and many new faces who came to see how they can get started. Thank you to all who gave of their time and talent to be part of our Haiti HUG! We look forward to our next gathering!

(If you would like to hear Girbson Bijou’s story, a video has been posted on our web site at www.haitifoundation.org).



HEF ON MISSION

Photos of teams who have visited Haiti since our last publication. All have great stories to tell!



(Left) Jon Robert, principal of St. Matthias Elementary, visits with Piper Moritz of FPC Shreveport during a recent visit.



(Right) Shelby Guilbert of FPC Shreveport with Pere Fred, priest in charge of St. Matthias Parish.



Andy Corbin works with water employees on repairs and upgrades of the water purification system at The Allison School.



Raleigh Court Presbyterian church members sharing stuffed animals with the children at The Allison School in Larevoir.



Members of Haiti Healthcare Partners with matrons who are working with expectant mothers in Grand Colline and surrounding areas.



Members of the clinic team in Cherident meet with HHP representatives.



Children at St. Innocents, Bellevue enjoying lunch. FPC Johnson City, TN, partners with Trinity Hope to make this possible.



Rick Beeson of FPC Johnson City showing the children photos of mountains and snow. They loved using the iPad and seeing snow.



Members of St. Paul's Episcopal joined Papa Luc for evening prayers - a very special gathering.



Chris Carlisle and team shared 300 salvation bracelets in Marigot, Lavanneau and Bainet in southern Haiti.



The principal at Marigot explains the salvation bracelets to the students.



FPC Ft. Worth at St. Matthias High School surveying the solar needs for the school.



FPC Ft. Smith enjoyed a visit to their sponsored school over spring break. Fun for all!

Planning for the Future

Please consider making the Haiti Education Foundation a part of your estate planning.

TEACHERS AND STAFF...

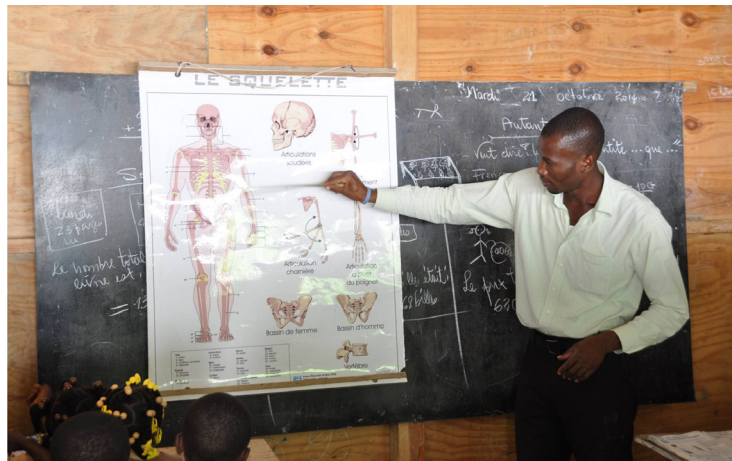
The Backbone of our School

The Haiti Education Foundation employs over 450 principals, teachers and aides in our 35 schools. All are Haitian and many of them are our former students. Our elementary teachers instruct math, spelling, reading, history, geography, science, art, French and Christian education. The high school teachers instruct classes in algebra, geometry, calculus, trigonometry, biology, chemistry, physics, philosophy, literature, geography, social studies, history, French, English, and Christian education. At the end of the year, there will be end of year exams for all students which will determine whether they go on to the next grade or not. All of our teachers' instruction is done on a chalkboard with chalk...hard to imagine in this day of so much technology...yet, there is great success in the classroom! We will be adding a computer class at St. Matthias School in Cherident next fall.

Last year, we were made aware of a new minimum wage requirement in Haiti. The required amount of pay is 5,000 gourdes per month. This meant that salaries for some of our teachers would double. Our board of directors voted unanimously to honor this wage increase for our staff. We know that it is the right thing to do for the people who are the backbone of our schools. Without a doubt, all have been very pleased with the salary increase!

Moving forward, we know we have to continue to spread the word about our mission of education. Teachers and staff are paid twelve months of the year. Donations for scholarship are needed now more than ever. We are grateful to the many who give faithfully whether individually or through sponsorship. Our goal is to continue to look for more individuals/churches/organizations/families who are willing to partner in our mission of education. We can do this!

The students have enjoyed a week of spring break and are now working to finish the school year. Their exams will take place in June. Please pray for all as they complete another school year. Together, we are making a difference!



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You shop. Amazon gives.

When purchasing from Amazon.com, please register for AmazonSmile to support the Haiti Education Foundation. A portion of each registered purchase will be donated to HEF...and EVERY donation makes a difference!

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More Ways to Make a Difference...

Our number one need is always ***scholarship funding***...this is ongoing, 12 months of every year, as the teachers are paid year round. However, there are always a number of special projects throughout the parishes.

Our construction focus for the spring:

★ 1. ***St. Andre School in Cavanack was heavily damaged last year during Hurricane Matthew. We are within \$20,000 of our projected cost and hope to be able to rebuild this school before the beginning of next school year.***

2. Many schools are in need of new latrines The cost for each of these is \$3,000.00. They are needed immediately at St. Luc-Bresilienne, Bon Samaritan-Bras de Gauche, St. Jacques-Denard, and Transfiguration-Corps.

3. Chalkboards and benches are constantly in need of being replaced. The cost of each is \$100.00.



Sponsorship Opportunities

Currently, the Haiti Education Foundation supports 35 schools in the remote mountains of southern Haiti. The dream of our board is to match each school with an American partner. This benefits the children in Haiti as well as the sponsors! 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 tenets: 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 or organization. Those needs are the salaries of teaching personnel and some 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.

Involvement

Our hope is that a representation from your church or organization will personally visit the school, meet the children and their teachers. This allows donors 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.

Please contact Susan Turbeville if you are interested...870-866-8618.

Prayer Concerns

Your prayers move mountains! There are several matters in Haiti that need your constant prayers:

1. The leaders of our schools; Pere Fred, Pere Michaud, Pere Goursse, Pere Beauvoire, and Rev. Marie Chery as they oversee the education and spiritual guidance of the children and teachers.
2. Ancy Fils Aime is responsible for our missionaries traveling to Haiti and so much more!
3. Students and teachers will have a successful end to this school year. They will take end of the year exams in mid June.
4. The hurricane season will be a mild one for all.
5. That the faith of the people of Haiti will remain strong and they will feel God's presence in their lives.



Hope Personified: Frances Maschal Landers

After a few trips to Haiti, my wife and I felt a strong need to learn more about the history of the Haiti Education Foundation and the history of the country itself. We wanted to know more about how this organization ended up in the mountains and how the country came to be in the position it was in - that's when my wife found Martha Miller's book, *Hope Personified*.

We were amazed at how much more to the story there was and how inspired we became reading about how the the determination of an Episcopal priest and the willingness of a Presbyterian woman to listen to God's call could change the face of the southern mountains of Haiti. Martha does an amazing job of both giving a historical perspective of Haiti and also chronicling the life and impact of Frances Landers. *Hope Personified* is a must read for anyone affiliated with the Haiti Education Foundation or anyone interested in Haiti. - Mickey Quinlan, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Shreveport, Louisiana

Martha Miller is happy to personally sign your book if ordered through our website at www.haitieducationfoundation.org. The book may also be purchased at Amazon.com.

THE *Hope* LIVES ON BECAUSE YOU CARE....

We are nearing the end of the 36th...and looking forward to the 37th year of Haiti Education Foundation's commitment.... This is only possible because of your faithful giving! God has more than blessed us as we have grown and given God's children in Haiti an opportunity to be educated. As established many years ago, 100% of all donations are used as designated by the donor. Thank you so much for making this possible... Together, we are making a difference!

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

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

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