



*Where There is Water There is Life
Water For a Dry and Thirsty Land*

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NEWSLETTER

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Greeting in Jesus' Name!,

Another year has come and gone. And we can look back and see how God has kept using so many wonderful people to bless the people of Haiti through Water For Life. The verse that keeps coming to mind so much as we live and work in Haiti – "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts" Zech. 4:6 (NKJV) I find myself too many times thinking I can do something on my own, but then recognizing it is only in His power that anything worthwhile can be done. He wants us to always be walking according to His Spirit and not out of our flesh. To see what God has all put together is a miracle! To have been able to drill more than 1,200 wells now, over 30 years, and have a school going and irrigation wells operating, our pump crew installing and repairing our pumps, and our part-time volunteer medical clinic team members sharing God's love and the message of salvation is something only God can do!. It is so neat to see ALL the people He has used to accomplish His purposes! From old people to children. God has blessed us through you all.

Several weeks ago a team (Make It Rain) from Pennsylvania was here with us, and I asked one of them to share his insights with you all~~~

We have yet to find a way to put our experience in Haiti into words. Especially the moment we shared at a WFL well in Fond des Blancs.

For my wife Courtney and me - along with rest of our group of 10 - getting to this specific well pump meant months of praying, preparation, and planning, as it does for anyone who is blessed enough to serve alongside WFL. It means doctor visits and prescriptions, packing bags and traveling. In the beginning of our journey we felt burdened by all the logistics and tasks that come along with a trip such as this, but it all disappeared in an instant.



Tears of joy for the on-going blessing of his mother's life...

As my wife pumped, I splashed the cold, fresh water onto my face. This same water that sustains over 300 Haitian people every single day was now sustaining me, and my desire to feel connected with my mother again.

This particular well had been donated in memory of my late mother, Jeanine (Groff) Musselman, who my father Kendall, brother Miles, and our entire family had to say goodbye to in early 2007 after her second battle with a brain tumor. We miss her dearly, along with her generous personality.

My father and my grandfather, Larry Groff, had been down with WFL 2 years prior to dedicate the well after it had been drilled. On it, they placed a plaque with my mother's name, along with John 7:37:

Jesus said, "if any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink."

Now it was our turn to visit “Mom’s well,” and our brief time there is something both Courtney and I will remember for the rest of our lives. Every well that Water For Life drills seems like a miracle to us, so to see a well (a popular one according to Leon) forever labeled with my mother’s name brought tears to our eyes. To us, it’s a fitting memorial. To see something so tangible, with such purpose, filling a real need to a community such as Fond des Blancs is amazing. Mom’s life seemed to be a constant outpouring of care and love for those around her, and now her well is literally *pouring out* for the people around it who need water. The same way the staff and volunteers of WFL, along with all those who support their mission seem to overflow with love and compassion - these wells gush forth a beautiful, life-giving symbol of that same love. It truly is a gift like no other.

Getting to Fond des Blancs was a team effort. We traveled to Haiti with a group organized by Make It Rain, Inc, a non-profit out of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Austin & Julie Landes, the founders of MIR, were the ones who reached out to us to join the trip back in early 2014. They, along with volunteer veteran Jim Frankenfield, and the rest of our Make It Rain team had been tirelessly planning and organizing this week in Haiti for months prior.

Our moment at the well was just one of the unforgettable moments we shared that week. Make It Rain had accepted the task of building 20 new desks for the Help From Above school in Paswadòm. This meant gathering materials (almost all of which were donated by local businesses), bending, grinding, priming, and painting the steel needed for each desk, cutting the wood, and shipping it all down in a container to be waiting for us when we arrived in Les Cayes.

After assembling the desks at the WFL compound in Les Cayes (the steel was in some desperate need for a little TLC from the ocean voyage), we made our way to Paswadòm to install the desks. Our team was greeted by well over 300 schoolchildren and their families, and while the work that went into building and transporting

these desks was already well worth it, our time at the school with the kids made it all an absolute blessing - one we will never forget. The Make It Rain team also brought down toothbrushes for the students, as well as soccer nets to equip the schoolyard soccer field with. Soccer balls, jerseys, shorts, and socks - all donated - had made their way down in the team’s suitcases too. Needless to say, a game was organized on the spot, and we were able to watch these generous donations be put to good use.

Speaking and interacting with Leon and Joy Miller, along with the entire staff of WFL, is nothing short of rejuvenating. Water For Life continues to fulfill their mission of bringing clean water to the people of Haiti, and with full hearts. We realized the full extent of their hard work on our way home, as Courtney flipped through the pictures we had taken on our camera. My mom’s well, dedicated about 2 years ago, was #808. The well we

witnessed being drilled on our trip...#1265! In just about two years’ time, Water For Life has brought fresh water to countless communities, and we are so proud to be a part of it all.

We will always remember what it felt like to see “Mom’s well” for the first time, but we will never be able to fully describe the emotion we felt

as Leon translated the importance of that moment to the families who were present at the well when we arrived. A woman holding her young son listened to Leon, turned to me, and smiled. I’ll always hold onto that.

Our prayer is that this mother and her son will be able to have countless memories together at the well, just as I was able to connect with my own mother, whose name graces well #808.

- Forrest & Courtney Musselman

As we look toward the next year we keep praying God will touch your hearts to make it possible to bless yet more people in Haiti.
 ~~ Leon and Joy



Some of the students with their new desks!