



Where There is Water There is Life Water for a Dry and Thirsty Land

— US Address —

Box 456, Kalona, IA 52247
(319) 656-5433 • waterforlife@hotmail.com

— Haiti Address —

Rte de l'Aéroport, Charrier, Cayes
(509) 2228-9259 • wflhaiti@yahoo.com

www.wflhaiti.org



Enhancing Trust

Volume 25 | Issue 12

NEWSLETTER

December 2018

The Gift of Love



Thanks to lots of love and tireless support, children of Pasb-wadòm could experience Christmas before the date! They were the happy recipients of school kits from the Upper Deer Creek Church Vacation Bible School in Iowa. See those looks filled with joy and excitement as they open their bags that contain items that will allow them to draw, color, calculate, express themselves and help them learn, in addition to hygiene items.



Carefully and lovingly put together, these priceless gifts help build hope and confidence in Christ, that their names are written in the palm of God's hand and that they are loved.

These gifts made them feel so special!

Love and Compassion Made Flesh

With 9 siblings, 3 of whom have died from malnutrition, Marialove, 10 years old, already bears in her flesh the stigmata of misery and ignorance. In addition to her stunted growth, sullen expression, and swollen face due to protein deficiency, the little girl is completely blind in her left eye, and her right eye is already showing signs of Xerophthalmia, the term that covers the various effects of Vitamin A deficiency.

When Marialove came to our mobile clinic, her sister told us that, before completely losing the vision of her left eye, at night the little girl would knock on the walls of the small house and always complain about a "veil" in her eyes. At that time, the parents were unaware that it was a warning signs of Vitamin A deficiency and that their daughter was at risk of losing her sight.



There was nothing they could afford to do because of their precarious economic condition. Going to the big town and seeing an eye doctor is way over their budget. They waited until they heard of the Water For Life mobile clinic coming to their town. Only then was she diagnosed and prescribed the necessary Vitamin A, anti-parasite medication and nutritional counselling. Unfortunately it was too late for the left eye, but her right eye can still be saved.

Xerophthalmia affects only poor children; even in areas of high prevalence, it only very rarely affects children from wealthy families. It is a disease related to poverty, lack of education of mothers, lack of arable land, inequality, and lack of access to curative and preventive primary health care, high incidence of bacterial infections and parasites (themselves linked to lack of hygiene and access to drinking water).

In Haiti, 4% of people with blindness are children, and 40% of these cases of blindness are due to corneal opacities mainly attributable to vitamin A deficiency. The other consequences of this deficiency are the disruption of bone growth, weakened immune response and increased risk of death.

You, the disciple of Christ, have made it possible for us to reach one of these children and save Marialove's remaining vision. This year alone, your love and compassion have allowed us to reach 5,504 people with the Gospel and health-care, saving many lives of women through cervical cancer screening and treatment. The cost for doing *each clinic* runs into \$10,000+. We count on your compassionate hearts in order to accomplish this, as we plan each year to do 8 mobile clinic outreaches. On behalf of the poorest of the poor, your brothers and sisters in Christ, thank you! A special Thank You to Calvary Chapel Quakertown for their gift of 2 thermocoagulators; such a great gift that will allow us to screen and treat more women more easily for pre-cancerous lesions in our mobile clinic outreaches! God is faithful! We wish you all a Merry Christmas!

— Get Your Newsletter via Email —

Prefer to receive your newsletter via email? Just send your email address to us at waterforlife@hotmail.com

The Love of Christ Manifested through Each and Every Water Well

When a person get older, they must be careful not to become dehydrated. Firstly because the proportion of water present in the body decreases, from 75% in the infant to 60-65% in the young adult and only 50% in the senior. Secondly because the kidneys have more and more trouble concentrating the urine: to get rid of a certain quota of waste, we must eliminate more water. Finally, because the sensation of thirst, regulated by certain hormones that become less effective, dulls with age. Not to mention that certain diseases (such as diabetes) increase water losses.

Slight dehydration can cause fatigue, headaches, difficulty concentrating, muscle cramps, constipation, and increases the risk of infection or urinary stones. Stronger dehydration causes great weakness, hyperthermia, increased heart rate and increased blood pressure.



In Haiti, hot weather increases the need for water for everyone. For very old people, incontinence and physical or psychological dependence can lead to water restriction by caregivers, especially when there is difficult water access. Every well dug in a village is a gesture of generosity towards an old man or an old lady who, without you, would be thirsty and prey to all the complications mentioned above.

On behalf of all the elders of the area of Aquin, South Haiti, Thank You for contributing to the drilling of 8 new wells in this region.

From the President's Desk

Christmas greetings to each and every one of you! As we celebrate this wonderful time of year, what do we say but “Glory to God in the highest?” Jesus was born to give us Life. May we celebrate and rejoice in that He came to set us free! It’s a wonderful season when we give gifts to others and share His love that He came to give us. And Thank You so much for the gifts of love you have shared with the Haitian people. At the same time we think of another year that is almost over! Each of us has a different story to tell of what has happened

— October 2018 Statistics —

- Wells Drilled: 6
- Hand Pumps Installed: 14
- People Served: approximately 4,900
- Hand Pumps Repaired: 34
- People Served: approximately 11,900
- Mobile Clinic Outreach: 430 people served
- WFL School Meals Served: approximately 10,500

in this past year. I pray that we choose to see that God has a perfect plan for us even when it may not seem that way. *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you; plans to give you hope and a future.”* Jer. 29:19 (NIV) I pray we choose life and not negativity. There is so much negativity in the world, and it gets us nowhere. So let’s try receiving the blessing God wants to give us. I am sure we can look back at this past year and see some blessings He has given us. We need to choose to see the blessing God has placed in front of us. God is kind, He is good, His mercies are new every morning, every day. Receive His goodness; it’s there for us all! Just open your heart and receive it from the Father Who loves you so much!

I am seeing how generous Jesus was when He was here on this earth. He went about doing good all the time; He loved doing good! What the Father is teaching me is—“Freely you have received; freely give.” As I have received forgiveness from Him freely, I need to freely forgive. As I have received unconditional Agape love I want to give it away to others. I have received kindness from him; I must give it away so I can get more of everything He has to give me! It affects every part of our life. As God has blessed you, you pass it on to others. When we receive blessings and then close our hearts or hands and don’t bless others, it kind of stops right there. God wants me to pass on what He has given me, whatever that may be; that looks different for each of us.

You all have been such a blessing to us, and we pray that we have passed on those blessings! We keep praying for God to keep showing us how we can bless people both physically AND spiritually. Water is such a vital part of life for our existence, and as we share with people here the water God put under the ground, we pray they will find the Real Living Water—Jesus. God has shown us other ways we can demonstrate His love—teaching children in school, assisting irrigation projects to help people have food and to create jobs, and by utilizing our mobile clinic program to improve people’s health and introduce them to Christ.



You have been used by God to bless thousands of people this past year. We are looking forward to the next year and to seeing what all God has planned. May God empower you with His wisdom, His love, and His presence as you go into the next year! Have a Blessed Christmas! ~Leon

— Matching Fund Challenge for New Well Rig —

Just a reminder of the \$400,000 matching fund challenge for the new well rig! If you would like to help make it possible to buy a new rig and get good water for thousands more people that still do not have access, that would be great!! Pray and see what God would have you do.