



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

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Enhancing Trust

NEWSLETTER

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A Step Toward a Better Future



The life of schoolgirls used to be hard in remote areas where poor families have to make difficult choices about school expenses for their daughters. Long ago, the majority of children attending school were boys. At that time, girls often did not have the chance to go to school; the parents preferred they be kept at home to help mothers with housework.

However, despite the fact that poverty is still present in Paswadòm, Aquin, South of Haiti, we happily see inversion of the student ratio of boys/girls. In fact, as in many places in the world, there are now more girls than boys attending school in this village.

Thanks to faithful donors, little girls of the Divine Help School are taking every year a step towards a better future, helping to close the door to misery, early pregnancy, prostitution and many other misfortunes related to lack of education.

Because you care, 399 students including 212 girls (from preschool to tenth grade) are receiving this year quality Christian education and a balanced hot meal every school day.

Praise the Lord for generous loving hearts who make that possible. May the Lord pour continuously His blessings upon you!

To the One Who Remembered Me in my Low Estate, His Love Endures Forever Ps. 136:23 (NIV)

In October 2016, deadly Hurricane Matthew ravaged the entire southern portion of Haiti, immersing the majority of the people in devastation. Several hundred died, while the living lost their homes, their livestock, their crops.

Looking at her broken-down little home, Macculée, 55, sighs, as this disaster is not the first blow she has had to endure. Indeed, in a country without any social program, this widow must struggle daily to meet not only her basic needs but also her son Dony's. Dony is suffering from the ravages of sickle cell anemia. Despite his 25 years, Dony is the size of a child and suffers from intermittent severe pain as a result of the disease.



His poor physical condition makes him unable to help his mother in her everyday activities, everything from housekeeping to gardening and fetching water. The little she earns above their food needs goes to pay for Dony's medication.

Praise the Lord! Thanks to a generous donor, Macculée and Dony will soon be living in a real home once again. Meanwhile many others continue to live in extremely poor conditions. On behalf of these people, Water For Life appeals to your loving heart to offer them a decent house, and little by little they will be able to rebuild their lives.

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URGENT NEED!!

Hurricane Matthew caused extensive damage to houses and significant sickness due to unclean water. We have a donor who has pledged \$100,000.00 in matching funds, dollar for dollar, for donations specific for building new houses and providing water in these hard hit areas. If you would like to be a part of this effort please designate your gift accordingly. You can return this slip with your donation.

Yes, I would like my donation to be matched for building new homes and providing for water needs .

Lord, When Did We See You...Thirsty and Give You Something to Drink? Matt. 25:37 (NIV)

Words would fail to describe the harsh reality of this boy. Sednel, 9 years old, from Boukan, Roche a Bateau, south coast of Haiti, knows hunger, thirst and lack of proper clothing. His home, along with all other houses in the village, was destroyed by Hurricane Matthew. Yet, Sednel stands upright, head high, harboring an adult look towards the camera.



Despite his young age, this little one has a big responsibility to provide for his family's daily water needs. Barefoot, his rags on his back, Sednel must go, several times a day to this old and damaged water catchment. Most of the time, he will spend more than an hour each trip to collect the droplets of water that fall slowly from this broken pipe.

No wonder Sednel has never been to school. There is no time for school when you have to spend more than half the day collecting water. Still, the boy is grateful to get the water from this pipe, because in dry season, the water stops.

Then, like everyone in the village, Sednel must draw water from the river, taking the risk of bringing contaminated water to his family who will have no choice but to drink it. The adults are stronger; at worst they may only feel slight abdominal cramps. But the younger ones, like Sednel and his little brothers and sisters, will suffer from diarrhea, anemia, malnutrition... If they survive, these children will suffer throughout their lifetime of retarded growth, both psychological and motor.

When you help drill a new well in a remote village in Haiti, you save the lives of more than 350 women, children and men.

Be carriers of life! Bring them water!

From the president's desk

Greetings to each of you in Jesus' name. It has been a wonderful busy winter so far; we have enjoyed each of you who have come and become a part of our team all working together for the glory of God. You have been a real encouragement to us! I am seeing more and more of how God wants me to rest in Him. He says, "Don't be anxious about anything; instead pray about everything. Tell God your needs and don't forget to thank Him for His answers. Phil. 4:6 (TLB) It is a peaceful place to rest in the Lord He says, "Don't be afraid; don't worry, I will take care of you!" It reminds me of when I was a child, and Mom and Dad took care of everything; no worries for me! That is how God wants us to trust Him. In Matt. 19:14 Jesus says, "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (NIV) If the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to us, we can rest and watch Him do miracles in AND through us so we can become a part of God's answer to others' prayers!

Very soon after the hurricane, we had helped a number of people with tin for their roofs and also food. However, many families lost their whole house. Some funds were given to help a few of them rebuild. Praise the Lord, there is a family who has pledged \$100,000 in matching funds, dollar for dollar, for donations specific for building new houses and providing water in these hard hit areas. In so doing, the funds will be doubled! That way we can be of assistance to more families and be a wonderful blessing to more people here in Haiti! I am very excited about that! A local mason has been doing the building so that has an added effect of providing work for more local people too, always good in this country where there is not enough employment.

May God help us each one as we seek to hear His voice and follow His heart. ~ Leon

A huge Thank You to those who've donated baby bundles lately! They are such a blessing to the mamas!

January Statistics

Wells drilled- 11
People served-- approximately 2,800
Pumps repaired- 66
People served- approximately 23,100
Mobile clinic patients —597

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