



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

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## NEWSLETTER

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### *From the president's desk--*

Greetings to all our wonderful friends!

It is so special to see the many miracles that happen each day! Living here, just getting from point A to point B without an accident is a miracle, and we thank God every day for the safe return of our teams. The other day I was driving our old Dodge pickup, and I remembered a time several years earlier when I was driving the same vehicle down a very bumpy road when the tie-rod nut came off and I lost my steering and I shot towards the ditch. The blessing was that due to the bad road I was going quite slowly when it happened. But what to do now? I was nowhere close to a parts store. God's Spirit reminded me that my wheels have 6 nuts and maybe I could use one of them temporarily to replace the missing tie-rod nut. But what were the chances it'd be the same size? I tried it and, it fit perfectly! So I screwed it on and we continued on the journey of the day, saying, "Thank you Jesus!!", praising the Lord!

I was reading out of a devotional book this morning, and it was such a good reminder for me to not be afraid of encountering adversity as we remember that we live in a fallen world. I know for myself I do not enjoy adversity and conflicts. But you know, as I look back I can see all the times that were so hard and it was then that I was broken and cried out to Jesus to help me go through those times. I am reminded of Psalm 23 as David says, "...though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me..." This whole little chapter is a blessing in hard times and good ones! We can enjoy the peaceful times, sure, but we do not need to fear the adversity that will come our way, because He wants to fight for us! Just remember—Run to Jesus, not away from Him as Adam and Eve did. When we mess up, He wants us to come running to Him. Never be afraid to run to Him and He will hold us close to Himself! ~Leon

### *The Divine Help School--*

Learning opens doors to personal and community growth. The Divine Help School in Paswadòm has been providing the children of Paswadòm with quality academic education rooted in Christian values. On the Haitian standardized state test for 9th grade this year, 92% of the class passed; this was due to the combined effort of devoted teachers and the determination of students. Way to go, students!!! The children are soon to start a new school year, with new challenges facing them; meanwhile, our school classrooms are getting too small for the number of attendees, some benches have worn out.



The parents of the children, most of them local farmers, have been facing a difficult dry season for the past 3 years, creating an economic crisis in the community. They have worked hard under the harsh sun, yet some will not be able to afford their children's education this year. A child could be forced to give up his door to a brighter future. The children are calling on your generous gifts to help them pursue their education, helping fund tuition, uniforms, textbooks, school supplies...

It feels good to see smiles on the faces of children when they discover their potential for success

## *Water—A Basic Need*

We would like to share with you the story of people living in a small arid village named Mouyaj Foukèt in South Haiti where one of the first Water for Life wells was drilled. Unfortunately, in this drought we are experiencing, the well has dried up, making life in Mouyaj Foukèt nothing more than a continuous struggle to find the most basic of needs: WATER!

The villagers have no choice but to rely on wells in the next villages, miles away from them. The very few fortunate pay the high price for the water to be carried by motorcycle. The vast majority (women and children) will walk long hours under a burning sun, inhaling dust from the road.

With great hope, Water for Life started a new well drilling project in the area to bring fresh water to that community. With that well in their village, the people would enjoy hope for a better future, but the most important thing, the women and children would be free from their tiresome burden of carrying those heavy buckets for long hours on their heads.

Unfortunately this story has no happy ending; the well was drilled, but the water was too salty for human consumption! And the people remain in very deep need of fresh water.

Mouyaj Foukèt is not the only village with salty water wells; there are also other areas in great need for water where there is very little chance to find a good well.

This reminds us that whatever the means available, we need to always be thankful for what we have. Money may give us the possibility to drill wells, but money doesn't put good water underground.

Brothers and sisters, pray with us for God's wisdom, to face this heartbreaking reality. For over 30 years we are witnessing children and women struggling so much to find water for their subsistence. Especially when there is no chance to find good water underground, please pray with us for God's miracles in this country.

## *The Thirst Ride Finish—*

As you probably saw in the past two newsletters, The Thirst Ride—a Pacific-Ocean-to-Atlantic-Ocean cross-country bike ride to raise awareness and funds for WFL commenced June 6. The plan was to finish August 1, but the riders decided to hurry it up a bit and finished in the Boston area a whole week early!! Way to go, Landon Beachy and Randy Troyer!!!

The first week Randy Troyer, Keith Bahler, and Landon Beachy rode across Oregon. Keith left the ride at Boise, ID. The support crew was a huge part of the team effort, providing safety, comfortable sleeping quarters and food for the riders.



The RV used was from K-Z out of Shipshewana, Indiana; we all were so very blessed by their generosity in loaning it to us!

Matt Weaver, Rachael Weaver, and Hannah Peterson rode with Randy and Landon from Hamburg, NY and threw out the challenge to be in Boston by Saturday, a week ahead of schedule. They said it wasn't easy, but by mid-week it seemed possible, so they went for it!

Thank you to everyone who gave of their time on the road to make The Thirst Ride possible!! A special thanks to Randy for his vision and efforts to make this fund-raiser a reality, which will result in more people being able to drink clean water!

Thank you so much for your prayers for us! They are what keep us going! And please write us and tell us how we can pray for you too. We really do want to partner with you in this way. Seriously.

*Blessings,  
The Water for Life Team*

### *Statistics for July*

Wells drilled: 26

People served in drilling: 9,100

New pumps installed: 20

Pumps repaired: 36

People served in pump repairs: 12,600