

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

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Enhancing Trust

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## NEWSLETTER

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### Let the Little Children Come to Me

A hearty Thank You! and wishing many blessings to each of you supporters and also to the teachers and all the school staff who made it possible for our students to complete the 2019-20 school year the end of this October. It's Christ Himself who has put us all together to make it possible for these students to come to Him. May God continue to bless each of you with all His blessings that come through His Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior!



For the new scholastic year 2020-21 (begun in November) we continue to count on our Father Who takes much pleasure in seeing all of us offer ourselves to His service, for Him to put us together to accomplish His Word, according to Psalm 133—Behold how good and how pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

You already have an idea of how difficult life is for most of the people of

Haiti, to the point of impossible, and even more so for families with children in the community of Pasbwadòm.

The children continue to count on your prayers and financial support so they can have text books and a hot meal every school day. For a good number of these children, this is the only real meal they eat in a day. Also by your support the school teachers, cooks and other staff members can be paid



for their valuable work. Without your support for more than 30 years, for those who completed high school this past school year, God alone knows where they would be today.

We pray that God would send more workers and that we can continue to work together, for Jesus to continue to use the loaves and fishes we offer Him; He will lift them before the Father Who

will multiply them to nourish the spirits, souls, and thoughts of the children.

Let's continue to bring the children to find Jesus in the Divine Help School of Pasbwadòm.

### The Gender Trap

At work from morning to night, women and girls shoulder the burden of domestic work, and their responsibilities increase even further in times of crisis.

In Haiti's remote areas, women spend much of their time fetching water and firewood, preparing food, scrubbing clothes, and caring for young children or the sick. Environmental degradation impacts their lives more than anyone else's: when drought or floods devastate the countryside, many men will migrate to urban centers or even other countries in search of work; women will stay behind, tending





fields, raising the children on their own. In these situations, they must work even harder to make up for the absence of the husband, surviving on even more reduced resources. In addition, when resources are scarce, it is often women and girls who are sacrificed. Indeed, girls may not only be threatened with violence, but also may be forced by financial need to help work instead of being able to go to school. Daughters end up helping their mothers with domestic chores until they take a husband and become mothers in turn, many times at a young age.

Poverty is not just a question of income. It is also a question of insecurity and the impossibility of being heard and of even making choices. The voice of poor women is rarely heard, for poor women and girls are discriminated against both because they are women and because they are poor.

The situation seems to be at a dead end for this marginalized group, but every time you donate a well in a remote village in Haiti you push back the borders of poverty and help to free women and girls from this gender trap. We are so glad when we hear that in those communities more girls can go to school than before.

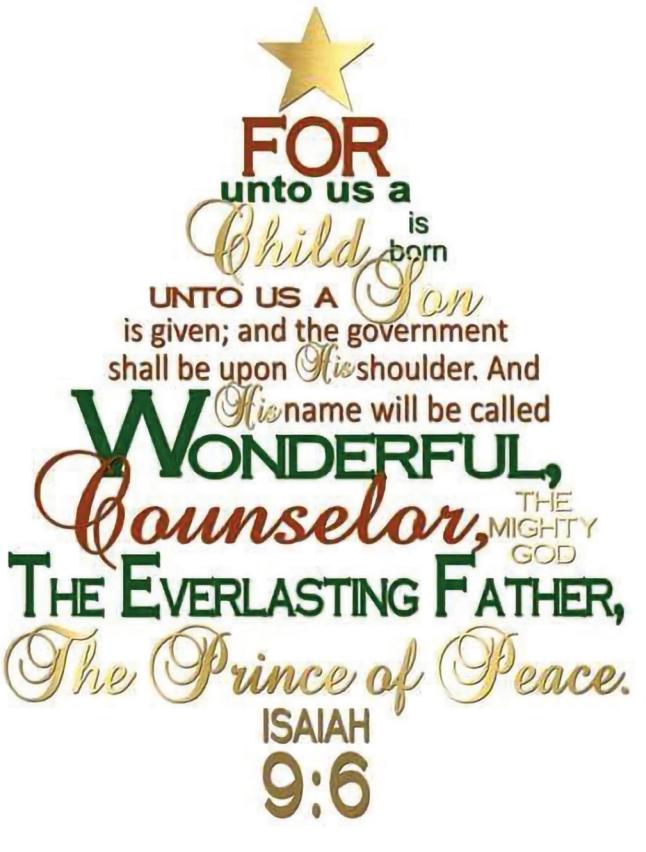
#### From Leon's Desk

Greetings to all our wonderful friends! God is so good! Isaiah 9:2 tells us, "*The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.*" (NIV) It is an amazing story!! Reading on in the chapter, you come to verse 6 which tells us, "*For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*" It was for us—ALL of us—He was born as a human here on planet Earth, this second Person of the Godhead.

He left His wonderful, perfect place in Heaven to rescue us from the eternal consequences of sin that we'd been born into. That is some wonderful Love He has for you and me! He is the Only One Who can give us the peace in all the situations we have come through this year of 2020. One thing we can be sure of—God is in control, so let's hold on to His peace and rest.

Joy and I have both had Covid-19 recently, and I am grateful we had a light case compared to many. People ask us how

*Would you consider making Water for Life a part of your estate planning? We are so grateful for those who have already chosen to do so.*



that is affecting Haiti. There, not enough tests are available to test very many. We know that there has been an epidemic of flu symptoms and fevers, but without testing, who knows whether it was Covid? It may have been, but no proof. We are so very thankful to God for bringing them through this moment so far. We know many people have prayed for the people of Haiti in regards to the virus. We ask you to keep doing so!

In looking back at this year of 2020, we see the huge project we had in front of us, after receiving the new drill rig and test drilling in Pennsylvania last December. Then it was a long wait as the company had some modifications they wanted to do on the machine yet, and we needed to raise the money to ship it and the water truck. After that it was another big chunk of money to get them through customs, registered and licensed, and finally driven safely the five hours to Les Cayes in a time of insecurity throughout the country. What a journey to see God's faithfulness and how He used you to make it all possible!

Looking just a little into the new year, we see we're going to have to keep trusting the Lord for His continued provision to keep three drill rigs going; it takes more drilling supplies than ever these days!

I wish you could come this winter to Haiti, but the way it's looking, it won't be a good idea due to security issues there. Please pray with us that things would settle down and our work won't have to be affected. We are blessed that at this point we are still able to drill, to repair pumps, and have school operate.

Joy and I are planning to be in Sarasota, Florida, for a little bit this winter, hoping to organize a meal/banquet fundraiser at a local restaurant on January 28 while there. We'd love to have you come; please contact us for more details!

We wish you a Blessed Christmas!!

~Leon & all the staff of Water for Life