

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

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## NEWSLETTER

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#### A Ray of Light in a Time of Despair

At Guichard, a village in the area of Camp Perrin, South of Haiti, the lack of access to potable water was for years a nightmare for the people, especially for girls and women. In Haiti the burden of supplying water for the family rests on their frail shoulders. The community made a request for a well to Water for Life over a year ago. Due to the amount of requests we received, it was a year later till we could finally reach their area to drill the well.

On top of the daily burdens experienced in most villages in Haiti to have water, food and so on, the people in Guichard also received the full rage of the 7.2 magnitude earthquake on August 14th, a beautiful Saturday morning, injuring and killing many people and destroying homes. It was a day of DARKNESS, DESPAIR, and HOPELESSNESS... Two days later, Hurricane Grace passed through and destroyed gardens and little homemade tents that the people huddled in, in a vain effort to protect themselves from the rain and wind.

It was a real time of challenge to 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18, *"Be Joyful and give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* It was a real test to the faith of the believers, especially when they had a hard time to remember anything good that had happened in their lives, said a pastor in the village.

Unexpectedly a month later, in the early morning, in the midst of their despair, the people in Guichard saw a ray of hope appear in the village. After a long wait for over a year, with admiration and astonishment, they were welcoming the drilling team of Water for Life for their well. It was the first event that brought back joy and hope in their lives since a long time ago. It was a ray of light for them and a party in the village when they saw water coming out of the ground.



Because of your generous gifts, donors and prayer partners, you brought to the people of Guichard the spirit of JOY and THANKSGIVING. Because of your faithfulness to the

Lord and your compassion towards the needy, Heaven can hear the kids of Guichard laugh again while drinking and taking a bath with fresh water, and women fellowship while doing laundry by the well.



May the Lord bless you all!

#### A Blessed Heart Transplant

In Luke 23, the judge clearly said he found nothing in Jesus that deserved death. But the people insisted in rage that He be crucified. The innocent One had to become sin and be sentenced to death for the guilty ones to be forgiven and free from all their sins and evil. It was the way the Father chose to give us the great gift of salvation and to fill us with His Spirit at the day of Pentecost.

In Luke 23:26, something caught my attention when the soldiers transferred the cross from Jesus to Simon of Cyrene. On the day of Pentecost and for all time, the Father filled us up with the Heart of His Son Jesus Christ to empower us with His Love by the indwelling of His Holy Spirit. This is how Heaven sees us, all of us who love, support, and care for one another. This is who we are in Christ as we believe Him and fulfill His greatest commandment to love one another. Today WE are "Simon of Cyrene," carrying on Jesus's mission, stated first in Isaiah and then also by Christ Himself in Luke 4: 16-19.



Brothers and sisters, believers in Christ, prayer partners, financial supporters and WFL staff, may the Lord keep blessing all of you with the sacrificial blessing of Simon of Cyrene so the blind can see, the lame can walk, the deaf can hear, and proclaim deliverance to the oppressed, the good news of the Loving Grace of God through the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we are praising the Lord for having exchanged our sinful hearts for His unconditional loving heart.



#### From Leon's Desk

Greetings to all our wonderful friends! It is amazing how time keeps moving along! Maybe it's because I am getting older that I think so! One thing for sure—as each day goes by, we are one days closer to seeing Jesus, whether in death or at His return!

Joy and I had the opportunity to spend two weeks in Haiti very recently. It encouraged my heart to see how well our team works together helping others in various ways. But when we see how the country of Haiti has gone through multiple catastrophes in the past number of months it begins to look discouraging. The Haitian people are strong and have gone through many tough times, but these times do look bleaker than ever before. Interestingly, despite all odds when one considers all the facts about Covid, we don't see the overwhelming amount of cases that were predicted given how closely people live to one another and the impossibility of social distancing. I think immune systems are good. We do know that many people brewed their own immune-boosting teas when they suspected they'd been exposed to the virus. They are amazing people in many ways! Thank you for your prayers for them! Philippians 4:4-7 says something that may not be easy to follow when one is already discouraged and in despair. But it is the Word of God and I think God wants us to stay focused on Him. It says, "4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

As I was also thinking about the upcoming Thanksgiving season, I see we still do have so much to be thankful for even if we see so much trouble in our world of today. We need to

remember that God has a plan and we'd best stay in close touch with Him and follow Him no matter what. We know a young sister in the Lord who has been ministering in the Middle East the last couple years. Her stories of others' lives as a part of the persecuted Church have inspired us to keep praying for others in this world, lifting them to God's throne as they live in the midst of HARD. There are multiple ways that people experience HARD—losing a loved one no matter what country one lives in; living in Haiti with few resources; being deported to Haiti after spending months on a route hoping to end up in the USA; living in Afghanistan under the Taliban, or in war-torn Syria, or communist countries or refugee camps—different kinds of HARD. Jesus told us (John 16:33), "In this world you will have trouble. But be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world." And Jesus also told us, "By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you have love one for another." So please keep the Haitian people in your prayers; also that we can be the hands and feet of Jesus to them. We want to follow His leading in everything we do. Thank you so much for supporting the work being done. Let's not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

Thanks again! God bless you all.

~Leon

#### Kalona Office Update



Left to Right: Sara, Katrina

For the past couple years it has been Katrina Beachy who has answered phone calls, responded to your emails, and done all the bookkeeping duties required here in our office. She decided to take a different route now, and has spent a month and a half orienting our new secretary, Sara Swartzentruber to the task. We wish you God's richest blessings, Katrina! You have been so competent and great to work with! And we say a big Welcome to Sara; we are so glad God nudged you in this direction just at the right time!

— September 2021 Statistics —
Wells Drilled: 4
Hand Pumps Installed: 5
People Served: approximately 1,750
Hand Pumps Repaired: 70
People Served: approximately 24,500

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