



July 2017

Newsletter

Contents of this report ...

Bill & Sandy's 20th Anniversary Banquets	page 3
Spring Bible Conferences	pages 4 - 7
April Medical Clinic	page 8
Savane Carree Principal dies	page 8
June Pastor's School	page 9
Shepherd's Care Decisions	page 10
A Vision for Our High Schools	page 11
Just News	page 12
Needs	page 13
A Word from Bill & Sandy	page 14



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Thanksgiving

It is difficult to find words to express how thankful we are to all of you who are so faithful to support GSM and the Lord's work in Haiti. It is something we are mindful of on a daily basis.

*"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,
always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer
for you all, in view of your participation in the
gospel from the first day until now."*

- Phil 1:3-5

Thank you for **Praying**.

Thank you for **Giving**

Thank you for **Going**.

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A Word from Bill

Sandy and I are feeling as if we have been awakened by a fresh breeze. I am sure a great part of that is the anticipation of having a new family come to work with us.

When God brought Lamar and Glenda into the work it was our first reprieve from having to face the seemingly never ending parade of trials alone. Those trials have surely taken their toll, but were not in vain as all have been used by God for our spiritual growth, and His glory. Lamar and Glenda brought with them a spiritual element that was needed to increase the solidity of the work here in Haiti.

Now we are anticipating the new strength of ministry that will be coming through the Gidden's family, and Kyle's vision to build upon our Discipleship program. This will surely increase the quality of ministry we have among these children.

Then also there is the new ministry being created with the development of the hospital. I am hearing from many different areas about the excitement of the people for the possibility of the medical care they so desperately need in the Savane Carree region, and the training opportunities it will provide for our students.

More than anything else, we are experiencing a wonderful affirmation of God for the work of GSM through His continual and miraculous supplying of all our needs. Please continue to be in prayer for the ministry here, and for my faithfulness to report back to you all that God is doing in response to your prayers.

Plan to Come to the Banquets !

Celebrating 20 Years of Service



As most of you know, this year we are celebrating Bill and Sandy's 20th year of service with GSM and to the people of Haiti. To be clear - they are not retiring. And we hope they have 20 more years of service left!

To honor them and their years of sacrificial service, our plan was to help them pay off their house mortgage, and anything given beyond that need would be split 50/50 between some retirement funding and a cash gift.

Your response to this effort has been overwhelming. We have made our goal for the house mortgage, and are well into being able to provide some retirement funding, as well as a cash gift. We will share the final amounts during the banquets.

Now here is what you have to know about the banquets: we are going to present the mortgage burning at the Alabama banquet, and then present the retirement and cash gifts at the Florida banquet.

Here are the dates and times ...

Sat Aug 19 6:00pm Elkton Road Baptist Church - Athens, AL

Sat Jan 6 6:00pm Harbor City Baptist Church - Melbourne, FL

Please plan to come. And call or e-mail Lamar at least 1 week before the banquet and let us know you are coming. We will be serving supper and need to know how many to prepare for.

Spring Bible Conferences

March 30 - April 6

Every spring we carry in a team of preachers and laymen to do our Spring Bible Conferences in 5 of the area churches. This year 14 men went down. Eleven were preachers, two were laymen, and one was a musician.

We preached in 5 churches, some of which are pastored by graduates of our GSM high school. Thousands of people attend the services.

Enjoy this pictorial on the following pages to learn more about the week ...



▲ this picture, taken at Gran Rivierre is typical of the crowds



◀ after a service at Grand Rivierre, Pastor Maxis counsels with those who made decisions



Sandy Learns How to Carry a Basket

◀ It has taken years of practice, but Sandy has mastered the proper way to carry a basket ▼



2 Needs ▼

1) Annual Container

We will be loading our annual container in October. As always, there are a multitude of supplies that we need to load. Sometimes the funding for these supplies is a challenge. Here is a list of things that need to be on the container. Pray that God would supply our needs in this regard. Items should be new:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 stainless steel ranges | 1 small chest freezer |
| 1 commercial grade push mower | 2 wheelbarrows |

2) A Good Dependable Late Model or New Car

Our new missionary, Kyle Giddens, is in need of a car for his GSM travels. The car would belong to GSM, and would be tax deductible. Pray for God to provide.

Just News



Honey Bees built 3 large nests in the eaves of the Savane Carree mission house. The swarms of bees became a serious problem. Then some local Haitian men offered to remove all the honey comb nests if they could have them. They were eager to raise the honey bees to harvest more honey! Toedoe, one of our skilled workers, built three hives for the men. They wrapped themselves with cloths the best they could. Suffered quite a few bee stings. But are now in the honey business, and we are now bee free!



▲ team members canvassed each village, handing out thousands of invitations to the Bible Conference. On the left, singer Ed Lyon - Crawfordville, FL. On the right, one of the preachers, John Dickinson - Gadsden, AL.

Shad Smith, preacher from Dallas, GA, took the opportunity to preach at our regular Friday chapel service for the high school students at Milot. He was well received by around 300 students ▼.



◀ three Haitian boys examine an invitation they received to the Conference

During the Bible Conference week, we also take the opportunity to conduct a **Pastor's School** for the local Haitian pastors. This year we taught the book of 1 Timothy and did a teaching on The Tabernacle of the Old Testament. Below and on the left is Chris Lamb of Birmingham, AL, and on the right is Billy Wayne Morris of Anniston, AL ▼



▲ James Harden, a layman from Birmingham AL, shares his **personal testimony** with the people of Grand Rivierre. Pastor Maxis translating.

A Growing Vision for our High Schools

At present, there is no education available beyond 6th grade for the children that live in the region surrounding **Savane Carree**. Our school only goes to the 6th grade as well.

At **Biclaire** we have education available for those children up to what would be the equivalent of the 10th grade in the U.S. We desperately need to expand our high school work at Biclaire to go all the way through 12th grade, and also the additional required college prep year, call "Philo".

The work at Savane Carree will require the construction of a significant new structure to accommodate the high school. Pray with us for the funding of this growth.

The work at Biclaire is in need of several things: 1) additional class rooms to be added to the 2 existing single level rooms. The 2 new rooms will be built on top of the existing 2 rooms, making a 4 room, 2 story building; 2) new rest room facilities; 3) fill and grading of the school yard, as currently a large lake is formed in the yard every time it rains; 4) and longer term, we need a mission house on the land we already own behind the campus. The goal being to house an additional missionary family.

The work on the 2nd story high school rooms at Biclaire has already begun.

Please pray with us as we pursue this vision.

Pray with us that God would in timely and abundant fashion supply for us the financial needs of this vision.

Shepherd's Care Decision

We will be having a GSM Board meeting in August. This meeting will be significant as we lay our course going forward with this great work. Please be in prayer for Bill, Sandy, and the Board as they meet. Our relationship with the group of doctors we are working to partner with continues to go wonderfully. Just to refresh you, our relationship with them began in the aftermath of the Great Earthquake of 2010 when they found themselves somewhat stranded in Haiti without food, shelter, or transportation. We ended up providing those needs for them for several weeks. Again, be in prayer. And watch for a soon coming report on the decisions that will be made.



▲ the old mission house at Savanne Carree has been thoroughly remodeled - equipped with solar power, electricity, water, bathrooms - and is for now, according to the doctors, a quite sufficient operating room.



◀ Glen Bonds, pastor from Clanton AL, preaches from the elevated pulpit of Grand Rivierre. The raised pulpit is not to lift up the man, but to lift high the Word of God!

Pete Chadwick, pastor from Crossville AL - sharing invitations to the Bible Conference - takes some time to get to know the children of Madlyn, and have some fun with them. ►



◀ Shad Smith, pastor from Dallas GA, while sharing invitations in Morne Pele, also takes time to enjoy the children by showing them pictures of themselves on his digital camera. He soon finds himself surrounded by the curious children.

April Medical Clinic

Our regular clinics continue to be a great blessing to our children and staff. Dr. David Taunton of FBC Birmingham AL is holding a little Haitian girl. The team discovered a bad abscess under her chin that they believe would have killed her within a month. So they performed an emergency procedure, began some antibiotics, and feel she will be fine now. This picture was taken at the girl's home a few days after the procedure, during follow-up care to dress the wound. Doctors still make house calls! Thank you to the four churches that partnered to staff this clinic: FBC Birmingham AL; FBC Crossville AL; FBC Geraldine AL; and Grace Baptist Church of Dothan AL.



June Pastor's School

Kyle Giddens (*our new missionary*) below on the left, and David Crowe on the right, taught our June Pastor's School. They taught the book of 1 Peter.



A good class of pastor's accomplish another good week of study ! ▼

Savane Carree Principal Dies



GSM and the Savane Carree community suffered a great loss with the recent passing of **Eliane Augustin**. She has been the principal at Savane Carree for over 20 years, and has always done a magnificent job. She died of congestive heart failure. Please pray with Bill & Sandy as they seek God's person to carry on Mrs. Augustin's crucial work.

