



Mission Bon Berger Milot, de Haiti

February 2019

The Work of GSM

Your support is the means by which GSM is able to provide Christian Education to over 1700 children in grades 1-12, support our Haitian staff of over 130 workers, support our American missionaries, continue the medical care we provide for our staff and students, and continue sharing the Gospel in a multitude of ways. Contact us at any time ...

Good Shepherd Ministries P.O. Box 2624 Clanton, AL 35046

telephone: 334-301-4764 email: gsm1974@att.net

Here's what we've been up to ...

The Political Crisis in Haiti

Haiti is in the midst of a great deal of political turmoil that stretches back into the fall of 2018. However, it has only been reported in the U.S. within the past couple of weeks. Some Haitians are unhappy with their president and are trying to force him to resign. And it is possible that there may be an attempted coup. This situation has affected our ability to move about the country freely, and has caused recent teams to be restricted in their work, or cancelled altogether.

Impact on the Schools: as of press time, children are not able to attend school due to the unrest. The interesting thing is that the children are unhappy about that. The Haitian children want to be in school!

Impact on the first Christmas Team: in late November, due to the political unrest, the first of our two Christmas teams was confined to our compound in Milot for the entire week. Although our Christmas container had made it into Cap Haitien, it was stranded at the dock due to a variety of political issues and instability (*dock workers went home in fear of the disturbances*). And the team "stayed home" on the compound for the same reason. But "*the rest of the story*" is an encouragement! We had an earthquake in northern Haiti the month before this team arrived. And we had not realized it at the time, but it collapsed our septic tank. It was destroyed. So this Christmas team, graciously and without complaint, transitioned itself into a construction team and spent a week digging field lines in very hard ground. As a result, Milot now has a completely new septic system that should last us 20 years and more.

Impact on the High School Construction Team: a team of 10 was scheduled to arrive Feb. 12. As you may know, we had shipped a 35' x 85' metal building into Haiti back in June. Then a group of concrete men came down in October and poured the concrete slab for the building. This team was to raise the building. But we had to cancel at the last minute. This high school will be the only high school available to children in the Savane Carree area. It will also complete the long-term vision Bill and Sandy have had to establish a high school at all of our compounds. Be in prayer as this team of 10 works to reboot their effort and come in as soon as the political crisis is resolved.

Fuel: diesel fuel and gasoline are scarce and very expensive (*\$6 gal USD*). Lack of diesel fuel jeopardizes our ability to generate reliable electricity, threatening our frozen goods and refrigeration.

Food: Bill and Sandy have enough, but Haitians are running out of food due to supply lines being blocked.

- keep Haiti, the church in Haiti, Bill & Sandy, and the work of the Gospel in your prayers -

The Hope of Christmas

delivered miraculously through answered prayer ...

The first Christmas team was unable to carry out the work of our annual Christmas Bag ministry. But during the first week of December, there was a short break in the political unrest. During this brief period of calm our second Christmas Team was able to get in and share ***The Hope of Christmas***.

The team had to work very hard to accomplish in one week what had been planned for two teams to accomplish. But it was a very good week. We share your gifts with our school children in a worship setting. Pastor Jeremy Tatom, of the Fellowship Baptist Church in Steinhatchee, FL, delivered the clear gospel Christmas message in six different services to a total of over 1800 children.

Thanks to all the people and churches that abundantly supplied gift bags. Again, we were able to share with all of our GSM children, and a number of other Christian schools beyond GSM.



*“ Rejoicing in hope,
patient in tribulation,
continuing instant in prayer.”*

- Romans 12:12



February 7 Solar Project Team

Thanks to the Lifepoint Church in Palm Bay , Florida for the team of men they sent down. Although the political unrest limited and tested their ability to travel (*they were delayed a day on the ground in Haiti*), they were able to finally get to Savane Carree and do what they came to do on the solar project. It will supplement our electrical needs at Savane Carree. They also built a large number of much needed new benches to furnish one of our schools. By God's grace, they were able to make it to the airport when it was time to go home.

Needed Projects ... to pray for, support, and participate in

- relocation of our electrical distribution plant in Milot:
 - convert it to a more centralized location, reducing distances traveled by electrical current
 - work to be done by a U.S. team - cost ... \$4,500
- renovation of Faith Hall to provide a good seminary facility in Milot:
 - add a 2nd floor concrete walkway for outside access to rooms
 - replace the glass windows with block windows
 - we will use Haitian labor - cost ... \$10,000
- paint teams:
 - we have a constant need for paint teams on all 3 compounds
 - cost varies
- building of a taller, stronger water tower for Milot
 - the old tower is not structurally sound, and also needs to be taller
 - we will use Haitian labor - cost ... \$5,000
- a number of miscellaneous but important smaller projects
 - cost ... \$15,000

Update on Kyle Giddens

Kyle is not with GSM any more. He has moved to new fields of ministry. We are thankful for the work and ministry that was accomplished during his time of service with GSM. And we are certain that in his new areas of ministry people will be richly blessed and God's Kingdom will be glorified and increased. God speed and God bless.