

Sharing the Gospel with the people of Haiti through evangelism, education and medical care in partnership with the Mission Communautaire de l'Eglise Chrétienne des Cités. (MICECC)

A Publication of Haiti Outreach Ministries



50/20 ANNIVERSARY

“The 50/20 Celebration was about gratefulness! It was the expression of our gratitude to the Lord God who has been so very good to us in every way over the years, particularly the last 20 years as a church, despite all the challenges and trials our nation has faced. It was also an awesome opportunity to honor an honorable servant of God, Pastor Leon Dorleans, who has devoted most of his life to the cause of the Gospel of Christ, impacting so many lives and inspiring so many of us to follow his path. It was definitely a day we will want to remember for many other years to come!”

— Luc Aristhene

In 1972 young Bible student Leontes Dorleans stepped out onto the path of his lifetime. The path was Christian ministry and the first step was ministry to students in a small African-American church in Roanoke, Virginia. Over fifty years later more than a thousand admiring worshipers gathered in a suburb of Port au Prince, Haiti to honor Christ and to celebrate the lengthy and vibrant service of the young Bible student whose ministry has touched so many lives.

The 50-year celebration, on May 29, 2022, coincided with a celebration of the 20th anniversary of *L'Eglise Chrétienne de Terre Noire* (Terre Noire Christian Church), founded by Dorleans and capably led for 18 years by Pastor Luc Aristhene, a son of Haiti and Cité Soleil who had come to know Christ and to realize his calling at the leading of Pastor Leon. The Terre Noire Church had grown from a prayer group of 100 to a current membership of more than 1000 souls under the visionary leadership of Pastor Luc.

The joint celebration, held at the Terre Noire Church and broadcast on one television and three radio outlets, drew a



large crowd of current and former members and ministers of the churches planted in the work of the honoree. Pastor Leon was presented with eight commemorative plaques and plates and was featured on four different styles of tee shirts – one bearing his picture alone and one bearing a joint picture of both Pastor Leon and Jacqueline Dorleans, his wife and ministry partner for over thirty years. Of particular note was a church singing group from the early 1990's which had been gathered and reconstituted for the sole purpose of singing at the anniversary event.

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A LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CAROLINE CHAMBRE HAMMOCK



Did you know that the word gospel, which literally means “good news,” occurs 93 times in the Bible? From Matthew to Revelation and everywhere in between, Scripture

reminds not only of the good news of Jesus Christ but also implores us to proclaim it near and far.

Unfortunately, good news is not what is coming out of Haiti these days. Instability continues since the assassination of the Haitian president last summer, gangs are battling each other, kidnappings have become prevalent, and the cost of living is skyrocketing. For those of us who love and cherish Haiti, this is hard – and heartbreaking – news.

We can't ignore the realities that our Haitian brothers and sisters are experiencing. But I would encourage us to dig deeper for the good news too. As you'll read in this newsletter edition, great – not just good! – things are happening daily too. The schools just successfully completed the academic year, remaining open when many other neighboring schools could not. The MASTAS community health project is putting knowledge into the hands of moms in Repatriote, giving them the tools to educate others. A standing room only crowd came together in May to joyfully celebrate both Leon and the Terre Noire church. All three churches are hosting Vacation Bible School this summer, nourishing kids spiritually and physically. Our construction teams are adding new facilities on both the Baryè Fè and Espwa campuses, providing the infrastructure to impact even more lives in the years ahead.

Here's my challenge to you: let's change the current narrative about Haiti. Let's tell family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and others the good news. It's the good news that God is at work in countless ways and the good news that our Haitian colleagues embody in all they do for the communities served. While we can't travel to Haiti now, we can lift up – with grateful hearts – the positive things that are happening. We can help others know the Haiti that we know: a place of faith, fortitude, and friendship.

Yes, Haiti is hurting, but it is also so much more than its headlines. Let's proclaim that news near and far!

Peace,

Caroline Chambre Hammock



A WORD OF THANKS TO HOM'S OUTGOING BOARD CHAIR

In October, Wick Smith will complete his term as HOM Board Chair. Wick joined the Board of Directors in 2014 and has served as Chair since 2019. Over the past three years, HOM has dealt with many challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic and instability in Haiti, but under Wick's steady hand and faithfulness in God's provision, the ministry has remained strong. Wick has also lent his professional expertise in the areas of technology and personnel to support HOM and MICECC's needs. Although Wick's term is officially ending, he is, as Leon always says, “in it for life.”

Mesi anpil, Wick, for your service and leadership!

IMPORTANT HOM UPDATES

WE ARE HIRING!

HOM seeks a part-time Accountant. This position is responsible for accounts payable, preparing monthly financial statements, reconciling bank accounts and ensuring HOM is in compliance with all IRS and audit requirements. This is a 10-12 hour/week position. **Please contact us at info@haitiom.org to learn more.**

TRAVEL STILL ON HOLD

Trips to Haiti remained suspended due to unstable conditions. We continue to closely monitor the situation, and any travel updates will be posted in the News section of our website www.haitiom.org.

REMEMBER WE HAVE A NEW ADDRESS:

Haiti Outreach Ministries
PO Box 942 | Matthews, NC 28106

BARYÈ FÈ WELCOMES FIRST 13TH GRADE CLASS!

Since opening in 2015, the vision for the Baryè Fè secondary school has been to offer the full complement of grade levels in the Haitian school system, which goes through grade 13. Last fall, this dream was realized as Baryè Fè welcomed its' first 13th grade class! Jacky Dorleans, school superintendent, shares the following reflection:

“Last September 21, thirty-two 13th grade students – proudly wearing their beautiful uniforms – solemnly entered their ‘magnifique’ new building. The students were in awe in stepping inside. They realize that God truly answers prayers!

This is the first time we are having a 13th grade class to take the Haitian national exams. The exams took place from July 1 to July 6. The students are all confident that they will be successful.



First 13th grade class!

They worked very hard throughout the years. May the Lord be with them! The school staff, the teachers, their parents, and I are behind them 100%. The Ministry of National Education will release the test results in August.

HOM, MICECC, and I thank you for your steady supports. Bondye ap travay!!!”

13TH GRADER FACES, OVERCOMES ILLNESS WITH SCHOOL SUPPORT

by Jacqueline Dorleans, MICECC School Superintendent

Last summer just before the start of the 2021-22 school year, rising 13th grade student Achelène Albert was struck by a disease which caused lumbar pain, shortening of the leg muscles, and progressive paralysis. It was very difficult to see her debilitated by this illness.

The recovery plan was not easy. Achelène he had to take dozens of Vitamin C injections before starting a challenging regime of 24 physiotherapy sessions. The first 12 of these included thermotherapy, gait training, and reinforcement and mobilization of the lower limb.

Leon and I insisted for Achelène to be in school, so she would not lose the school year at Baryè Fè. The school came together to support her as much as we could. Espayder Marcelin graciously found her a 4-wheel walker in the Terre Noire storage room. Jimmy Honore encouraged the teachers to contribute financially as they were able. School staff and Achelène's classmates joined together in prayers as well as to offer their financial support and assistance. The head therapist, Dr. Frantzo, facilitated the process by making the cost per physiotherapy session a little affordable after I explained to him that Achelène's parents were really without financial means, not to mention the price of private transport to pay.

I must point out that Achelène was very courageous from the start and had a great desire to be able to walk again. She also had the moral support of Pastor Leon whom she calls “Dad,” and the devotion of the school community.

In June, Achelène walked into Baryè Fè without the aid of her walker or other supports. Thanks be to God! In early July, she was also able to participate with her 13th grade classmates in the national exams.

We are very proud of Achelène. She is a beautiful and courageous girl. Pray with us for her continued healing and that she will pass her national exams. Bondye ap travay!



MEET THE GRADUATES!

It is always a joy to see our students graduate from university. These three young people graduated last month from the American University of Modern Sciences in Haiti (UNASMOH). Here, they share their reflections on their education and hopes for the future.



NAME: Thermot Emilfort
DEGREE RECEIVED: Accounting
YEARS IN HOM/MICECC SCHOOLS: Nine years – seven years at Cité Soleil and two years at Terre Noire

How did attending HOM/MICECC schools prepare you for university?

These schools gave me a good education and many strategies for succeeding in life. They prepared me well for university.

What would you say to those who have supported you throughout your education? During my studies, there are a lot of people who supported me. First of all, I say thanks to Mrs. Jacky for her support and her advice. And my family, they never left my side during difficult times. I also say thanks to my classmates and my teachers.

What advice would you give to younger students today? As they know, Haiti is a difficult country. I advise them to stay positive and never give up.

What is next for you? My education is not over yet. I am going to work to obtain an accountant's license and also a master's degree in taxation.



NAME: Davidson Medeus
DEGREE RECEIVED: Electromechanical Engineering
YEARS IN HOM/MICECC SCHOOLS: Nine years – five years at Cité Soleil and four years at Terre Noire

How did attending HOM/MICECC schools prepare you for university?

The education that I received helped me a lot in my university and in my life too. It helped me to be focused on my education, to be respectful, and to always put God first in my life. The education I received will help me in my entire life.

What would you say to those who have supported you throughout your education? During my studies, there are a lot of people who supported me. The first thing I can say is, I am blessed to be part of this big family. I thank you a lot for all your support with my education, all your help and advice during all my studies. Thank you a lot, dear supporters – without you I could not have achieved this. My family and I thank you. I pray God to keep blessing you!

What advice would you give to younger students today? My advice for the younger students is to trust in God, believe in your dream, make your education your priority, and be respectful.

What is next for you? My plan is to find an internship and find a job. I think also in the future I will get a master's degree in electrical or mechanical engineering.



NAME: Anne Jean Louis
DEGREE RECEIVED: Associate's Degree in Accounting
YEARS IN HOM/MICECC SCHOOLS: Nine years – seven years at Cité Soleil and two years at Terre Noire

How did attending HOM/MICECC schools prepare you for university?

The schools always prepare the pupil's mind for university and to face the challenges of the university level. The schools prepared us to be above average students.

What would you say to those who have supported you throughout your education? During my studies, there are a lot of people who supported me. I want to thank everyone who supported me during my studies, especially my mom, Madame Jacqueline, and my sponsor. The person who I am today is because they accepted to support me. I really love them, and I pray to God every day to save their lives.

What advice would you give to younger students today? I would like to say that even though life could be difficult, keep patient and work hard.

What is next for you? I will study to get a bachelor's degree. It's easier to have a good job in Haiti with a bachelor's degree, so I hope to find a good job to help my family and to help others like I have been supported.



CHURCH SPOTLIGHT: GEORGETOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH by John Bruns

Georgetown Christian Church in Georgetown, Indiana is rather new to the Haiti Outreach Ministries family, but we are excited about the work God is doing in Haiti. We were introduced to HOM by Syria Christian Church in Orleans, Indiana. My good friend and fellow tornado relief worker, Bentley Adams, accompanied his grandson on an HOM trip with Syria Christian. The following Sunday the first words out of his mouth were, “John, you have to go!” My first opportunity was two years later, and we were hooked.

The following year Georgetown Christian tag-teamed with Syria Christian. Several Georgetown members accompanied Syria Christian on a week-long trip, and then eight more Georgetown members came the following week. Syria began a project reinforcing the pews at Repatriote and we finished it up the next week at Terre Noire. What a wonderful problem to have, pews so full that they need to be strengthened!



In 2019 our numbers grew. Our team of fourteen included several members from nearby churches. We generally build furniture for classrooms and church offices. Leon has a never-ending list. On this trip, we built 24 bulletin boards, four tables, 10 benches, four cabinets, plus a bookshelf for Nadege’s office. Who can say no to Nadege?

While we enjoy the camaraderie of our teammates and accomplishing our work, the real joy comes from getting to know our hosts. Renold Thelusma (Pierre), the caretaker at Terre Noire, doesn’t know a lick of English and I know about three words of Creole, yet we have become friends. Be prepared when he puts a hug on you—nothing is halfway with

Pierre. Every evening after dinner, the group wanders down to the girls’ home to visit and play with “Nadege’s girls.” We do our best playing soccer with them, but the girls run circles around us. My wife Debbie and I have had the pleasure of hosting Nadege in our home, and I know I am blessed when I receive a call on Christmas Day from Haiti, from Leon, wishing us a Merry Christmas.




Left: Doug playing hot hands with Nadege’s Girls. Right: Mark and his BFF.

Our last trip to Haiti was in March of 2020. The crew was small, just six, because of concerns of violence in Haiti. The day before we departed the states, President Trump suspended travel from Europe to the US due to COVID-19. Some team members expressed concern about getting home, but all boarded the plane anyway. The United States was going crazy. Every evening we would get updates from home about how the world was changing. Haiti had yet

to record a single COVID case, so things were quite normal there. As we discussed events at home, a recurring theme kept coming up: GOD IS SOVEREIGN. No matter what challenges lay ahead, God is Sovereign, and we will be okay. We have assurance that nothing can separate us from His love.

When the week was over, we proceeded to the airport which was mostly empty—quite unusual for Port-au-Prince. Miami International was a ghost town. We cleared customs and had our bags within 30 minutes of landing. When we arrived in Louisville, just before midnight, I received a text from my wife. Haiti had confirmed its first two COVID cases and was closing the border at midnight. GOD IS SOVEREIGN!



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

by Bob O'Brien

Despite the overwhelming challenges that is Haiti today, construction continued unabated at our campuses. Led by Marcelin Joseph, Construction Manager and Jean Wilkens Emile, (Emile to us) the planning, purchasing and execution of various projects continued. Since our last newsletter the team has completed the following projects:

ESPWA CAMPUS

1. The caretaker's house is complete, painted and the caretaker has moved in.



Caretaker's house and generator/clean water room.

2. The generator/clean water room structure is complete, the well has a manual pump installed and the new generator has been delivered. Work is continuing on completing the electrical and installing a submersible pump in the well head.
3. Plans are being developed for the Bible College and associated toilet building. Construction is expected to begin this fall on both these projects.

BARYÈ FÈ CAMPUS

- The third classroom building was completed this past September. Upper grade classes are using the new building.

- The need for a kitchen and additional toilet space was a major concern for the secondary school.

The pictures below show the foundation work in March and the finished building in July.



Foundation work on new Baryè Fè kitchen and the finished building!

- As the secondary school continues to expand, the team is hard at work to complete the fourth classroom building. Construction began in May. The pictures show the progress from layout to the roof pour last week. Work continues with completion scheduled by September. The progress has been amazing thanks to our Haitian team.



Progress on 4th classroom-foundation to roof.

REPATRIOTE CAMPUS

- Work continued on the interior finishes of the Youth Building. A recent donation will be used to continue completion of the interior of the building. Stay tuned for our next update on this project that has been a dream of our Founding Director.
- The existing 20 kw generator was rebuilt and is running well.

TERRE NOIRE CAMPUS

- A new 60 kw generator was installed after one of the generators failed.
- Our Haitian electricians installed a solar power system to power the offices, the computer room and Pierre's apartment.



Terre Noire sanctuary.

- In anticipation of TN's 20th anniversary and Leon's 50th anniversary, the church was painted inside and out.
- A small office building was constructed to provide church office space for the CS church staff.

CLEAN WATER REPORT

All four campuses report very good distribution of clean water. Through the first six months of the year, over 302,000 gallons of clean water was provided from the four campuses. The stateside water supervisor, Don Boothe, reports the new Espwa Campus clean water equipment is on site and awaiting installation.

THANKS

Thanks go out to architect Bill Mclees, structural engineer, Lesley Giles and electrical designer Phil Hammond who provide excellent drawings for the BF and Espwa campuses. The stateside team of Bob O'Brien, Rick Giles, Tad Prewitt and Bill Etheredge continue to provide construction direction. Tad Prewitt also provides oversight and direction for the generators at all the campuses.

CLINIC CORNER

by Janet Horton, FNP

- Despite the challenges faced in 2021, the clinic staff treated over 8,800 patients, administered more than 1,200 vaccines to children and pregnant women, 400 women received prenatal care and 2,000 patients were seen by our dentist. The numbers have slightly increased for the beginning of 2022 with an average of 900 patients seen each month.
- Dr. Solon has been awarded and accepted a scholarship to study epidemiology in Canada. Although he was only with us for a little over a year, Dr. Solon had a very positive impact on our health care efforts. We wish him the best in his studies.
- Dr. Suzie Plaisir, our pediatrician, agreed to serve as Interim Director. Dr. Plaisir is our most senior physician on staff; she has worked through multiple staff changes, and has an excellent knowledge of the clinic operation. She will be an asset to the clinic in this role.
- The clinic is staffed daily with an internist, a pediatrician and an ob-gyn. Due to the ongoing unrest, it is difficult getting help. Two positions are filled by four part-time

employees. Dr. Walter Joissaint, DDS, was hired to replace the dentist who left in October 2021.

- Marline Jean Jacques, a former translator and current dental assistant, helped narrate a brief tour of the Terre Noire clinic and introduction to our staff. You can watch the video at <https://bit.ly/HOMclinic2022>.
- We are working with the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSP) to purchase reduced cost medications and supplies. To qualify, a licensed pharmacist on staff is required. Currently, one of our nurses serves as a pharmacist. We are exploring hiring a pharmacist in an advisory role to meet the required qualifications.
- The nurse internship program implemented at the end of January has been completed by 4 nurses. This program provided much needed (free) help for the clinic and gives



new nurses experience to help in gaining employment.

- The Curamericas/HOM project to provide community-based maternal/child health initiatives in the Repatriote community continues to progress on schedule with a favorable response from the community.
- There is no change in team trip status. We are grateful that several teams continue to support the clinic through donations.
- We are investigating ways for teams to provide support to the clinic through virtual health education classes for patients. Discussions with both staff and team physicians indicate support for this idea – we still need to figure out logistics.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CLINIC?

Contact Janet Horton, FNP at medtrips@haitiom.org. Clinic donations are always appreciated at haitiom.org/donate.

MICECC SPOTLIGHT: DR. WALTER JOISSAINT

We are pleased to introduce Dr. Walter Joissaint, our new dentist at the Terre Noire clinic. Dr. Joissaint says his life goal has been to “be a committed citizen and give his best to help his community”. After completing his studies at the Université D’Etat Haiti six years ago, he began his practice of dentistry at the age of 26 at the Hopital Notre Dame des Palmistes. Following that, he worked in Nippes and in Petionville where he lives. Dr. Joissaint enjoys helping people with their dental health and also likes to assist students in preparing for dental school. In 2018 he worked with the Mission Evangelique Love and Hope Clinic in Cité Soleil for six months. During that time he learned about Haiti Outreach Ministries and MICECC from his friend Dr. St. Germaine, our dentist at the time. When the opportunity was presented to join us, he said it was an easy decision, because he appreciates the team spirit of the ministry and our mission to help the communities. Finally on a personal note, Dr. J is originally from Jacmel and is unmarried.



DONATIONS

Contributions may be made securely at haitiom.org or by mailing a check to:

Dawn Walker, HOM Financial Secretary
PO Box 942
Matthews, NC 28106

Designate your funds on the check memo line. Undesignated funds will be added to our general fund.



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WE NEED YOU!

Help us meet the match – and change a life forever.



“If I didn’t have the chance to be educated, my life would be very different, if not impossible.”

— Mario Fougette, English teacher and former HOM student

DID YOU KNOW THAT 20% OF OUR STUDENTS ARE UNSPONSORED?

Sponsorship dollars are a lifeblood for our schools, ensuring that every child has access to a robust, Christian-based education.

HOM has received a matching challenge from three generous donors, who have again pledged to donate \$15,000 this year – IF we can get \$15,000 in NEW sponsorship funds from friends like you.

STUDENTS LIKE MARIE, JOTHAM, AND CLAUDJINA NEED SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT TODAY. Visit our website to sponsor or to make a general gift to the sponsorship fund.

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