



# Moore News

# In Haiti....

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## *Jwaye Nowel....Merry Christmas*

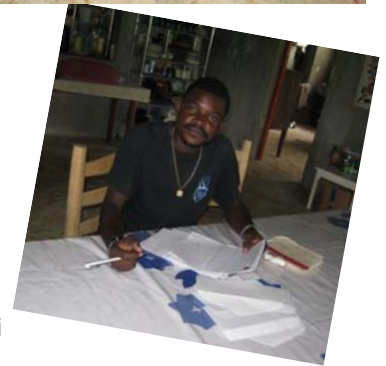
We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. When I sat down to write this Christmas greeting, I felt very overwhelmed by all the events in our life this year. We haven't done very many newsletters because we have sent out so many updates and prayer requests that I felt it would be really redundant, yet I have missed sharing all of our events with you. There are too many things to put into a year end or Christmas letter, but we wanted to share with you our joys for the year as well as things that have been difficult.



When God called us to work in Haiti, we knew that it would not always be easy, but we didn't expect to have a year like this one. The Haitians are amazingly resilient and yet...how much can any country or people take. The year 2010 began with the horrendous earthquake that devastated so much of Haiti. While the earthquake totally devastated places in Port-au-Prince,



Carrefour, Leogane and connected areas, it caused significant damage in many outlying areas such as our river valley in Marfranc. About the time people were beginning to put their lives back together from the earthquake, we hit hurricane season with hurricane Tomas hitting most of Haiti and especially our area in the Southern Peninsula. Tomas caused flooding in the Grand Anse Valley where we live, taking with it livestock, houses and fields of sugar cane, beans and corn. The damage it caused did not take any human lives, but left families once again without food or a roof over their head. Right on the tail of Tomas came the cholera epidemic. It started in the Central Valley (Artibonite) where we began our Haitian journey, 15 years ago. The disease made its way into Port, once again hitting those people with the third tragedy in nine months. Those in tent cities where sanitation was not great to start with were hit the worst. Again, we were fortunate and no one that we know of has been affected by the cholera although we have heard reports of several people in a village eight miles away dying from it.



You might think that nature had been cruel enough to Haiti, but alas, this was the year for presidential elections and what nature had not done....man did. The parties were not happy with the outcome of the elections and so they decided that violence was the only way to solve their problems. For almost a week, airports were closed, no one could come or go...borders were closed and people took to the streets, looting, burning tires, overturning cars, throwing rocks and cause trouble wherever they could.



We don't begin to understand all of this, but we do know that God's hand is in this. Haiti is a country that has a history of violence and Voodoo. We know that until more people come to know God, violence will prevail. Please continue to pray for the people of Haiti and that the new president will be able to effect some changes for the people of the country, instead of putting the money into his own personal pockets.



On a wonderful, happy note....we had a great year of visitors and getting projects done! Although our year started out really slow and several groups had to cancel their February and March trips due to the earthquake, we ended up hosting seven teams from March through December. It was amazing how many projects and activities we got done. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came to visit and work this last year. You blessed so many people in so many villages, not just Marfranc, but Plik, Chameau and Moron as well!

Beginning in March, Fran and John came and hiked to Plik and Plaine Marie, two of our remote villages, to visit as well as start plans for a new school in Plik. Then in April our Child Sponsorship team arrived to take pictures of the children in the program for 2010-2011. In May, Pastor Brian Miller brought down a team to visit Plik for the day and take gifts to the children and teachers there as well as work on doors for the school in Marfranc. Summer found us really busy with a team arriving in July to put roofs on the school and parsonage in the mountain village of Chameau. They camped out for four days to finish their project and also worked on welding the solar panel mounts for our solar system!!! In August a team from Austin, Texas led by Mike Clawson painted the entire Marfranc school, inside and out (nine rooms, three buildings)!



This fall we had two more teams; the first one coming just before Thanksgiving and bringing a turkey with all of the trimmings for us to share with our Haitian brothers and sisters and friends. They also painted the newly finished Director rooms at the Marfranc school (inside and out) and hiked to Plik to survey the ground for the school. At the beginning of December, Pastor Eddie Hammond brought a team to paint the outside of the church in Moron (about eight miles away) as well as work on patching and fixing the dorm room roofs at Azile (the retirement home near us). They also participated in a wonderful celebration at Azile. All of these teams brought down great gifts for the Haitian communities that they worked in as well as wonderful things for Kay Bo Rivye (fans, lights etc.) and personal things that we needed !!!!! THANK YOU.



You can see we have been really busy this year with the teams and all of the projects that they worked on. Our programs went well. The bean program (in its second year) is doing well, although next year we will only be doing three of the churches, expanding in 2012 if we can. The elderly feeding program is doing very well. There are 12 people in it and it has helped them out so much. They are very grateful for the food they receive twice a month. This year we have been doing a lot of medical help for people in the community. We have been supplying medicine for a little girl that has epilepsy (medicine was donated in Nov. for an entire year for her!!!). We also help people to go to the hospital who might not go if we did not provide money and transportation for them to do so. We have two babies (well, Erlande is 1 ½ now!) that we are supplying with milk and/or formula, vitamins, and supplementing with food, and I'm sure there are more that we will be helping as well. Our school child sponsorship program is in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year and doing great. There are around 115 children enrolled in the program with a majority of them sponsored. There are still kids available; if you go to the NLH website, you'll find them.

The needs never end, it is just a matter of finding those with the most need and helping them as we can. We helped many families after the earthquake to rebuild their homes and feed their families, not just in Marfranc, but in the outlying five churches as well. Without your financial help, none of this would have been possible. The people that were helped have asked us to say THANK YOU to everyone that sent money to help during this time! We thank all of you for your amazing support. You have supported us personally as well as supported the people of Marfranc, Plik, Chameau, Moron, Plaine Marie and Kanton. You have fed God's people, clothed them and given them shelter. As you have loved them, you have given to the least of God's people, your brothers and sisters. Thank you for loving us, and loving the people in Haiti, in this small village that we call home.

May you have a blessed and Christ-filled season and a wonderful, healthy and happy 2011. We will be spending our Christmas time and into February home in the states with family and friends. We are excited about the arrival of a new grandchild and spending time with family. We pray that God will keep you all safe and are thankful each and every day for all the God has provided for us!

Blessings to you all. Bon Dieu Beni Ou.

*Steve, Joline, Bouki, and Malice*

