



www.lifeconnectionmission.org

May 9, 2008

Hello Friends, Sponsors, and Supporters of Life Connection Mission. As always we first want to thank and praise GOD for all He is doing for the people of Montrouis and how He continues to bless their lives through you.

Praise Report: Since we last wrote to you, 12 children have been sponsored. TO GOD BE THE GLORY! We truly thank each and every one of you for being such a blessing to the children of Montrouis. May God continue to smile upon you for the love you've shown.

When God Speaks Do We Really Listen?

It is on this day, my sisters and brothers in Christ, that the Lord has placed it on my heart to share a dream I had several months ago with you.

Let me first say that this dream occurred after my third mission tour of duty to Haiti for five weeks. In the dream I am "returning" to Haiti "alone." There was a group of children of all ages sitting on the ground. As I began to greet them they all said to me, "what took you so long? Is it because you don't know us?" I assured them that wasn't the case. I told them that they belonged to the Lord and how much they mean to Him, and if for no other reason than that alone that would be enough to reach out to them. I assured them of my love for them and promised to continue to help them.



It is my prayer, that as you read about the dream the Lord gave me, that He would touch your heart in such a way that you will never be the same, realizing that there is a child in Haiti who is waiting for your love, your help, and support.

Your Sister In Christ,

Minister Deborah Ransmeier
Vice President, Life Connection Mission



PROJECT UPDATES:

MINISTRY PROJECT REQUEST:

We are continuing to raise funds to purchase Bibles, hymnals, and food on an ongoing basis to share with the community. All donations designated “**Ministry Project**” go directly toward this project.



BENEVOLENT MINISTRY REQUEST:

Please give to the benevolent fund. It is used for all kinds of emergencies such as sending people to the clinic, paying rent, and purchasing food for the poorest families. Please earmark your donation “**Benevolent Fund.**”

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM:

Last but not least, as it’s been said before nothing remains the same. While in Montrouis this last mission trip, the increase in the price of rice, beans, meat, milk, and fruit was brought to our attention. The only way we will be able to continue the feeding program at the school is if we increase the sponsorship fee by \$5.00 per month, bringing the amount up to \$25.00 per month. It has been over 10 years since there has been any change in this fee. We pray that by the grace of God, this will not be a hardship on anyone. This increase will take affect when your next payment is due. If for any reason you are unable to pay the

additional increase, please continue to send in the original amount or some alternate amount of increase you are able to afford. However, we know with God all things are possible.

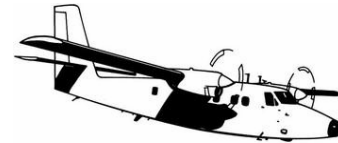
We cannot thank and praise God enough for the love and compassion you have shown to the community of Montrouis.

To God Be the Glory!

The Greatest Commandment:

Jesus Replied: “**Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.**”

Matthew 22:37 - 40



Where to mail packages to your sponsored children:

**Mike Painter
PAP 4133
100 Airport Avenue
Venice, FL 34285**

Packages are shipped by Agape Flights from Florida to Haiti. The cost to ship packages is \$2.00 per pound. Please write out a separate check payable to Agape Flights to cover this cost. Please mail the check separately to Agape Flights, 100 Airport Avenue, Venice, FL 34285.

Please write in the memo section of the check: Credit for Mike Painter, acct# PAP 4133.

The safest way to send money to your sponsored child is to use the donation form.

SCHOOL PROJECT UPDATE:



Above is a picture of the second story construction of the school that took place last January. Three rooms were added to the left side of the building. We would like to now add an additional four classrooms to the right side of the building. This will allow us to accommodate all grade levels – preschool through high school. The drawing below depicts the main school building when it will be completed. In addition to the four classrooms to be added, the drawing below shows an exterior walkway which will allow for easier access to each of the classrooms. Currently



some children go to school in the morning while others go in the afternoon. This addition will make it possible for all the children, except the preschoolers, to begin in the morning and have an extended school day. Please see the cost estimate and consider donating funds toward this project. Write “School Project” in

the memo section of your check. Your consideration regarding this project would be greatly appreciated. As always, To GOD be the Glory for the Great things He has done.

School Project Estimate:

4 Classrooms @ \$4,500 =
\$18,000

GET INVOLVED: If you are involved in an organization or church group that might be interested in joining this effort, please contact either Dale at 301-370-6426 or email him at dale@lifeconnectionmission.org or Diane at 660-359-5682 or email her at diane@lifeconnectionmission.org.

Mailing address:

**Dale Moyers
Life Connection Mission
23 Grey Pebble Court
Germantown, MD 20874**



Consider Blessing One of These Children



Julienne Jean (1003)
Age 16, Preschool



Pierre Marino (1017)
Age 8, Preschool



Kendia Voltaire (1028)
Age 7, Preschool



Yvenel Nicolas (1005)
Age 12, Preschool



Carceus Lerce (1007)
Age 13, Preschool



Shaneider James (1032)
Age 7, 1st Grade



Sylvia Jacques (1006)
Age 10, Preschool



Stevenson Jean (1025)
Age 7, Preschool



Islane Lizier (1014)
Age 8, Preschool



James Amineton (1026)
Age 10, Preschool



Shelda Jean-Pierre (1029)
Age 8, Preschool



Jean-Peter Dorlean (1033)
Age 9, 1st Grade

Rising Food Costs Cause Haitians to Eat Mud to Survive

The pastor of our church retired a few weeks ago after 28 years with our congregation. During his tenure he had delivered countless sermons on nearly every topic imaginable. But on his last Sunday, for the last sermon of his distinguished career, he chose to deliver a sermon on “the risk of love.” I’m sure a million topics must have come to his mind when preparing for this momentous occasion, but God knew what we needed to hear.



Woman selling mud cookies in the market

We made our first trip to Montrouis in October of last year. Although we were only there for a few days, our lives were irrevocably touched by the warm people and the tremendous need we witnessed firsthand. It was clear that many Haitian people are surviving only through the generous help and outreach of missions like Life Connection. Upon returning home, we were already making plans for a return trip in 2008 in hopes of staying longer and doing more. Then the riots began.

It is widely known that the Haitian government has been in a state of constant turmoil and instability since its very beginnings as an independent nation. However, in recent years the country has been relatively safe and peaceful, which was certainly the case during our visit last fall. Things seemed to be getting incrementally better in Haiti—President Préval has been working to eliminate government corruption and create an effective police force—but the country’s stability has been threatened by the recent spike in food prices worldwide. While this epidemic has been only marginally felt here in the United States, significant increases in the price of food staples such as wheat, rice, and beans are being felt with dire consequences in Haiti, where more than half of the population lives on less than \$1 a day, and nearly 80 percent lives on less than \$2. This brings us to the scenes which have been plastered across our television screens over the past month of Haitians rioting in the streets, burning tires, and demanding the resignation of government officials.

We have given this situation a great deal of consideration over the past few weeks and would like to share some of our thoughts with you. First, let’s put things into perspective. There are heinous crimes—rape, murder, assault, torture—happening in the United States every single day. Consider Philadelphia, the “City of Brotherly Love.” This city is currently averaging over one murder per day, sparking the nickname “Killadelphia.” A strong argument can be made that statistically Haiti is considerably safer than the United States. And in Haiti’s case, as in the United States, violent crimes are more heavily concentrated in urban centers (crimes are much



more likely to occur in Port-au-Prince than in Haiti's more rural areas).

We feel that the more significant story is not the violence, however, but rather its root cause. Haitians are starving to death. Now that a basic diet of rice is unaffordable, many families in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere have been reduced to eating cookies made of mud and vegetable shortening just to survive! More than political protests and far from the anti-American demonstrations seen in countries such as Iran and Iraq, the recent riots in Haiti are the result of utter desperation. Unlike some areas of the world, we did not feel any hostility toward Americans while we were in Haiti. Quite the contrary, Haitians in all levels of society seemed to be incredibly grateful for the help American missionaries are bringing to their country.

Let's not forget that the media's job is to take isolated incidents and make them newsworthy. This often means finding the scariest, most shocking images possible, making the situation seem very dire. In fact, one noteworthy result of the recent riots that has barely been mentioned by the press was Haiti's overall adherence to the democratic process. When the prime minister was voted out of office on April 12, it was through the legislative body, rather than through violence or military intervention.

Nevertheless, violent images, along with strong warnings by the U.S. State Department, are causing many Americans to think twice about their participation in Haitian missions. For a time, we found ourselves doubting as well. That is, until we heard our pastor's final sermon. He spoke of how comfortably Christians in the U.S. have been able to practice their faith. Unlike many of our ancestors and members of the early church, we face no threat, no persecution, no great obstacle to practicing our religion in this country. But God calls us to do more. Through your support of Life Connection Mission, you have demonstrated your commitment to ministering in Haiti and, perhaps now for the first time, there is some risk involved. But now, more than ever, is the time for action. Tell a friend about Life Connection. Sponsor another child. Send a few more dollars to help with the rising cost of food. Or consider a trip to Haiti to witness with your own eyes the enormous impact this mission and many others like it are having in a country where God's love is keeping hope alive for millions.



Each of us must try prayerfully to discern God's direction for our lives. We all have a calling. If your calling is to continue to support this mission, but recent events are putting that calling into doubt, then consider the final statement of our retiring pastor which still reverberates in our ears: "Sometimes love requires risk. But it's worth the risk. Amen."

Craig and Kathleen Hardesty