



## HAITI MISSION, INC.

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**June 2021**

*"To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded."*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



Upper left Fr Willie, Fr Joe & Dr. David Fakier Next row down is Lloyd Greenhaw, John Bonvillain, Anna Haydel Then Nancy Greenhaw, Nancy Haydel, Laura Fakier & James Hale Bottom row JJ Lafaso, Margot Donnes, Gabby Gonzales

## They Failed!!

In the COVID world in which we live today, some of the best news one can get is that you have negative test results – or in a sense you failed - when tested. The great news is that the entire team tested negative going and coming. PRAISE THE LORD! It was challenging to travel to Haiti in pre-Covid times but now one must add in covid testing, constant flight changes and oftentimes airline changes. Add reports of violence and kidnappings and a mission trip to Haiti is not for the faint of heart. Undaunted and determined, the June 2021 team lead by Dr. David and Laura Fakier, made it happen. We are so proud of all of them and so happy that things worked out so well! Details of the trip will be in our next newsletter. For now, we encourage them to take a much-deserved break. Bask in the joy of another grace filled, faith filled, and fun filled trip that brought joy and hope to some people in Haiti that the world has forgotten. Welcome Home. You done good!



**Meet one of the families**  
being blessed by your continued  
prayerful support of the work of HMI!

Haiti – House # 222  
***The David Michel Family***



David Michel is a hard-working fisherman who has been trying his best to care for his family of three children and his wife, Belamisse Magloire. The Michels are Catholics who have been praying and asking HMI for a house for a long time, hoping to one day to be out of the misery they have been in that one can readily see in the “Before” picture. Though the HMI selection team understood the need, so many people had been asking for housing (and certainly needed), it was not possible for HMI to build a house earlier for them. It is with great joy then that we are restoring their human dignity by providing them with a decent place to live. They send their prayerful thanksgiving and rejoice that they will finally have a safe and secure place to raise their children.

## Worker bees

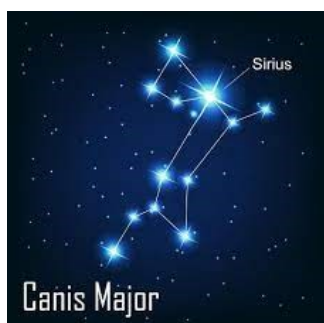
Haiti Mission Inc. has been able to accomplish incredible – some would say miraculous – things in its twenty-one-year history for many reasons. It goes without saying that one can see clearly the grace of God at work in the work of our hands. That grace however is manifested in the faces of our wonderful volunteers or as we like to lovingly refer to them as our “worker bees.” We have a number of these volunteers that work throughout the year keeping our books in order, producing, assembling, and distributing the newsletter, updating the website and other necessary functions to keep our beloved non-profit corporation in compliance with all necessary directives and keeping it active. The time that our “hive” becomes really active is for our annual golf tournament and silent auction. Various activities begin months prior but on the day of the event, our tournament chairman and master of ceremonies (so to speak), Don Robinson, gets there early and stays late, directing the well-oiled machine that has been developed over the past twelve years that we have been putting this on. Thanks to all who have helped and continue to help in any way.



(Mr. Clyde Orgeron and his pig-roast team. What a blessing they have been to our fund-raising efforts!)

## FAIE'S FACTS

Recently an article I read referred to “the lazy dog days of summer”, which led my curiosity to do research on this term. This refers to the hottest most uncomfortable days of summer, usually occurring between the end of July and beginning of August when dogs tend to be lazy because of the heat. The ancient Romans called these days “dies caniculares” or dog days since they associated this time with the position of the star Sirius, the brightest star in the constellation Canis Major (Large Dog). The Greeks also knew the star as the dog star, Sirius. When this star rises at its highest point by setting with the sun, some people feel that this affects nature and society. They connect this annually recurring event to droughts, thunderstorms, lethargy, fever, hysteria, bad luck, and that the extreme heat can sometimes cause dogs to go mad. Since July is one of the quietest months of the year for stock trading, the term is also used for the lethargic summer markets. Now, can we blame our summer laziness on this astrological event?





## HOME DONATION MATCHING CHALLENGE

At the completion of the 12th Annual Golf Tournament & Bec's Silent Auction, I was approached by long term supporters of HMI with an amazingly generous challenge. They were aware that because of the success and generosity of our sponsors and donors to the Silent Auction that we had enough matching money in place to potentially build four homes a month. This past week on our trip to Haiti, I met with the HMI construction team and asked if they thought they could build four homes per month through April 2022? Their response was no surprise and affirmative! June will be our first month building four homes.

**Through this couple God has provided the anonymous gift that will make that possible. They have pledged up to \$50,000. in matching money for all donations that are received by HMI from now through the end of September designated toward home building.** If you have ever considered helping build a home in Haiti or have donated for a home in the past, now is a great time if you are able to support the home building project. Donors can dedicate the home to a loved one with donations of \$3750 or more, but donations of any size will help us get to the \$50,000. needed to utilize the entire challenge donation.

God's plan for home building in Haiti has always been bigger than ours and as someone who has been blessed with seeing how these homes are changing lives it is easy to understand his plan. You cannot out give God and if the past is any indication, I have faith that our HMI donors will surpass the \$50,000. minimum needed to meet the challenge. Thank you in advance for your support. Remember to include a **note or write in the memo line, "Home Donation Matching Challenge"** for any donations that you send.

God Bless & Pax,  
David Fakier

### Doug and Jenny Pellegrin

(Continuing our series on how Haiti Mission has impacted the lives of people, we have the testimony of Doug Pellegrin after being part of the Haiti Mission Trip November 2020)

After supporting HMI for several years, my wife Jennifer and I were fortunate enough to participate in the November 2020 mission trip to Numero Deux. First and foremost, all praise and glory to God for safe travels and for placing us with such a supportive group of missionaries. Jenny and I cannot thank David and Laura Fakier, Joe and Terri Cunningham, Julie Steigner, Lori Labbe" and Gabby Gonzales enough for their kindness and willingness to share their knowledge on what to



(The statue of Our Lady in the alcove in the new Church where Doug and Jenny received their special "Haitian Blessing")

do and what to expect on our inaugural trip to Haiti. A bible passage that I wrote down earlier this year because of Covid, the societal unrest in this country and all the hurricanes was John 14:27. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid." This passage became a focal point for us while on this mission trip. On this Haitian journey, we experienced an indescribable moment that we will never forget. One moment which occurred in the church near the statue of the Blessed Mother, left us with a calming feeling of "do not be afraid". Haiti has everything you expect in a third world country - no electricity, no running water, scarce food and medical treatment, a lean-to for a house, bad roads or no roads at all. But it is also filled with a grateful people, a sharing and loving people with big smiles and big hearts. We witnessed many smiles and tears of joy on the faces of these beautiful people. To see a family when they find out they were chosen to have a new HMI home is such a wonderful occasion! Along with dedicating and blessing of the houses, family distribution day, visiting the Missionaries of Charity, visiting and feeding the prisoners in the Jeremie jail, listening to the Creole language and singing in Mass as well as so many other daily events made this mission trip something we'll never forget. Do not be afraid to continue to reach out to your family, friends, and neighbors to share with them how HMI is changing lives by the things they do. I would like to end with a synopsis of one of Father Joe's sermons during the week: "Gratitude", be grateful to be alive, "Emanuel", God is with us, "Trust God and surrender", "Listen", you have to listen in silence to hear God's word, "Vigilance", be ready we know not the day or the hour!" Jennifer and I thank God again for such a tremendous experience. We returned home with these words resonating inside of us, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid."

### Lighting up the Hills!

The Family Distribution is always one of the highlights of a mission trip. An average of 150 families are selected each trip to be the recipients of groceries, various supplies and \$20 in cash by way of our "Dirty Card helping Families" project. The past few years, one of the friends of HMI who visited Haiti on a mission trips was inspired to research solar lights in order that the families - especially the children - could have light to live by. Once a decision was made on the most suitable for the situation in Haiti, with both personal commitment on the part of this individual and participation by some friends, the solar light project was born. Has it ever been a success! All the families greatly appreciate what they receive from the team, but the solar lights are particularly precious. For a while, it seemed as though the lights would not arrive in time this year for the distribution. How exciting it was for the team to see the cases of lights show up in the storage depot the day before the distribution day. Thanks be to God!



(Cases of solar lights in the storage depot waiting to be unpacked "to light up the hills!")

### Upcoming Events and Important dates in the life of HMI

**October 2021**

Tentative trip (Dates TBA)

**December 2021**

Our Lady of the Rosary trip (Dates TBA)

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

Dedication—Our Lady of the Assumption Church Numero Deux Haiti



N.B. Our one-week mission trips fill up quickly. If you are interested in travelling to Haiti on one of our mission trips, please contact us so we can advise you of availability and get you scheduled. God Bless you for your mission heart! (N.B.) Passports must have at least six months left before expiration in order to enter Haiti. Travel advisories regarding Covid testing also apply.

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This newsletter is dedicated to raising funds to help the families whom we have come to know and love in the villages around Jeremie, Haiti. May God bless you and your loved ones for your commitment to the poor by giving in whatever way the Holy Spirit directs you.

**Yes, Here is my immediate donation to use where most needed:**  
**\$1000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_**

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$3750 would sponsor a new home and get a family “out of the mud and into safe secure housing.” (Our new home design is keeping the cost of constructing the homes at \$7500 with the \$3750 matching money for each home provided by funds raised from the annual silent auction)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000 would help us drill a well in a community without fresh water.
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 would buy food and supplies for a family (\$100 to help 3 families)

This monetary gift is made in memory of \_\_\_\_\_,  
please send an acknowledgement card to:   Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ Send me envelopes to be a monthly "helping hand"
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will be a prayer partner and pray for the Haiti Mission.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Please put me on your email/info list. email: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in going on a mission trip. Call me @: \_\_\_\_\_
- Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Haiti Mission Inc. is a 509(a)(1) tax exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code   Tax ID#14-1861365  
Haiti Mission, Inc. does not discriminate because of race, religion, sex, age, disability, national origin or financial status.

***“He who has compassion on the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his good deeds.”***  
**Pvb 19:17**

***THANKS FOR HELPING!!***  
***No donation is too small. No gift unappreciated!***

***“No One has ever become poor by giving”***  
The hand written words of Anne Frank (1929-1945)