60D... CONNECTING EVERYDAY FOLKS FOR THE GLORY OF HIS NAME!

Newsletter | August 2024

Dear Friends,

Our search for nerds, rednecks, and knuckleheads continues. For kindred spirits with hearts to advance God's Kingdom.

And God does not disappoint.

Many endearing knuckleheads stopped by our booths at the Cedar Falls and Okoboji Bible conferences this past month. I was encouraged to hear their personal stories about God's Kingdom growing across the nations. It renewed my spirit to be with people who are energized for Christ.

Thank you to all of you who recently signed up for this newsletter. We are pleased to connect you to God's mission expressed through our Haitian churches: <u>Proclaiming</u> Christ to those opposed to His gospel. <u>Equipping</u> servant leaders in our churches and Christian school. <u>Rejoicing</u> in God's holiness.

Cedar Falls Bible Conference Director, Matt Reisetter was quite honest when he introduced GMH at this year's conference. He mentioned he was hesitant about inviting GMH, as our name sounded like just another "humanitarian" effort. What he found however, was a ministry passionate and fruitful for the cause of Christ.

Matt's point is well taken. Anyone can feed for today. But Jesus, the Bread of Life, is eternally satisfying. Matt's desire is to honor the integrity of Christ, and partner with other like-minded ministries. He wants to be part of Kingdom growth in a Biblical, God honoring way. <u>And so do we!</u>

...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. Romans 5:8-9

God's gospel is our motivation and message. Christ's atonement, prayer, worship, and faith are in lockstep with our acts of mercy. Depth in substance. Honoring the sacrifice of Christ. In these we delight!

We are a teaching and mercy ministry with 23 Haitian staff in our 3 churches and Christian school. Staff payroll, church ministries, maintenance, gas, and food for our kids, all requires like-minded partners.

That's why my search for nerds, rednecks, and knuckleheads continues. To reach the poor with Christ, His Word, and His mercy. To partner with down-to earth folks with a heart to advance God's Kingdom.

We appreciate every partner, prayer, and gift to carry out the will of God through our churches in Haiti.

Despite our human weaknesses, cultural decay, and the evil trying to consume Haiti... God and His Kingdom cannot be stopped!

Please... join us... For the Glory of His Name!





Jeff and Greg Jorgensen at Okoboji Bible Conference



A full house at the Cedar Falls Bible Conference



The 2024-25 Kindergarten Class and their New Building!



T Fre and crew... Git'n er done!



In January of this year I announced to our Haitian staff that I would be trying to raise funds for pay raises. Their response? Thanks, but no thanks. Instead, how about a new building for our kindergartners?

I was inspired by their sacrificial attitude.

We shifted gears. Construction funds were donated. I drew up building plans.

On March 4th we were scheduled to start construction of a new kindergarten building. But on March 3rd our world changed. That's when gangs breached the defenses of Cabaret (the town near our village). They burned the police station. Looted. Most every business including the bank was shut down. Gas went to \$20 a gallon. Food became scarce. Evil now pervades our area.

But we pressed on. We found a way to access our Haitian bank account. We found a safer location for building materials. Despite the risk from gangs, Patrick our operations manager, navigated many dangers. As a result, we celebrate the completion of a new building for our kindergartners. Just in time for the start of school!

I commend Patrick's courage, discernment, and perseverance. He's a shining example of Christian grit!

The Spirit clearly saw us through. We praise God for His protection, provision, and providence.

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. (2 Thess 1:3-4)



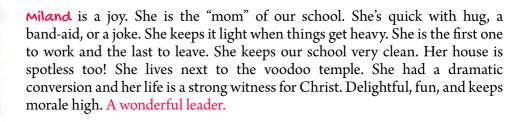
We reached our goal! Thank you!

You made our \$98 for 98 campaign a success.

Thank you for helping to provide our students with uniforms and curriculum. And for blessing them with dignity, purpose, and encouragement.

Our 2024-25 school year is off to a great start! ...we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. (Eph 4:15-16)

Meet a Few of the GMH Haitian Ministry Staff...



T Fre is our maintenance man. Quick to smile and a breeze to work with. He's hardworking and conscientious. T Fere is faithful in worship. He also sets up our sound for worship on Sundays. He oversees and maintains our solar power, buildings and latrines. He is an excellent carpenter. He builds tables, chairs, chalkboards, paints, even built our new kindergarten building. Humble spirit. Solid man.

Odieu, our school principal, came to us in 2020. We've only replaced three 3 staff members in 13 years. Our teachers love him! He's an experienced teacher and a gifted administrator. He does professional development for our teachers, leads worship at chapel, and oversees all our curriculum. He is a very good student of the scriptures. A well-organized leader, positive, and high energy. A real gem!

Jimy is "Mr. Dependable." Johnny-on-the-spot. Everyone's favorite! Jimy is gentle, sensitive and creative. Always smiling. A solid family man. He fell in love and married Ketlona, the prettiest girl in the village. They have a 4-year-old son, John, who attends our school. Jimy plays keyboard at worship on Sundays. He has an infectious smile and is easy like quiet summer morning. A genuine servants heart.

Anid. (A-need) is the glue that holds us together. An excellent mom and wife. She runs our kitchen and feeding programs. Not only can she cook, she can budget, and manage people (very gifted!) She and Guinel (village leader) have 4 kids. Makes things look easy. Very active in church, home and school. She is the matriarch of the village. Efficient. Sweet. Smart. And a beautiful singing voice. A blessing to many!

All of our 23 ministry staff are members of The Church of the God of Perfection. Each one lives in the village of Kilbitè (except Odieu). I (Jeff) did not assemble this team! God did. I marvel at His people. His placement. His timing. Amen Lord!



YOU?



Deacon Guinel, Pastor Niko, Pastor Gerguens The sign above them translates - Jesus is Lord.



The Church of the God of Perfection at dusk in Kilbitè

Our churches are eager to learn and enjoy worship. We are a tight group led by godly men.

Pastor Gerguens shepherds The Church of the God of Perfection in Kilbitè. It was planted in 2012. He is a capable leader, evangelist, and expositor. He is wise, gentle, and bold. A man of high ideals.

Deacon Guinel has been shepherding our new church plant in Marotte that began in 2022. He was my first contact in Kilbitè back in 2010. He has a growing desire to disciple others and be discipled. A solid family man, he is working towards ordination.

Pastor Niko is a mission partner. The Redeemer's Church is just up the hill from Kilbite. Niko planted this church and worked over a decade through incredible hardships. A determined and mature warrior for Christ. We are blessed to bless him with a salary and church support.

Haitian pastors wear targets on their backs marked by voodoo and gangs. Last month, gangs murdered a pastor in our local ministerial alliance. He was the father-in-law of our school principal. Everyone was deeply shaken. Pastor Gerguens officiated his funeral. Please pray with us for peace and justice.

Despite the surrounding oppression, we see repentance, and many coming to saving faith in Christ. Our pastors are powerful men. They are in tune with the Spirit. They bring hope and strength with a spirit of humility, service, gratitude, and worship. We thank God for their love. Please pray for them.



Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

This is my story. This is my song. If this is also <u>your story</u>, and <u>your song</u>... and if our vision and mission resonate within you... then we invite you to get connected, to cheerfully partner with us!

GMH is funded entirely (100%) by donations. Whether a one-time gift, monthly support, or introducing us to your church, we would be humbled and excited to hear from you. Thank you. God bless you.

For from Him, and to Him, and through Him, are all things!



PROCLAIMING . EQUIPPING . REJOICING