

## Supporting the Haitian ministries of Sam Rice, R.N.

Update: Gospel Growers Newsletter

September 2012

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With a heart full of praise and thanks to God, we write of current news of Haiti. First, we wish to thank all of you who have chosen to continue to help Gospel Growers ministries. In spite of difficult economic times, we have been able to continue even if on a smaller scale than before.

Last year we were assisting 14 Christian schools, but for 2012-2013 this number has dropped to 7. We found it necessary to restructure our Child Sponsorship program due to budgetary constraints. Some of you who are again supporting a Haitian school child this year may find you have a different one. This has to be done as we have dropped some of the schools. It seemed the wise thing to do rather than stop the program altogether. The amount for each sponsored child continues to be \$20/month or \$200 for the school year.

Child evangelism is very important for Haiti is the poorest nation of the western hemisphere. It is a sure and steady way to help bring this country out of its former spiritual darkness and into the light of the Gospel. The school serves as a base for evangelism in each community. Education is also a key element for raising these children out of ignorance and poverty to a better future, hopefully.

Our Radio Station has been silent for 2 months due to transmitter breakdown. However, this week it is possible that we may see it broadcasting again. Once more our listeners will be enjoying its Christian messages and music. On a happy note--our program director, Ovard Pamphil, and his wife have just been blessed by the birth of twins, two baby girls.

The clinic at Dariol has been busy providing both preventive and acute care to hundreds of the poor country people of the area. Thankfully, cholera has not visited our area so far, but malaria is always possible during the rainy season which is now occurring.

On a sad note, one of the three young men who help with the Child Sponsorship program, David Exane, recently passed away after a lengthy illness. He leaves behind a wife and a little girl. David was a youth leader in his church, and his loss is being keenly felt.

Please pray for his family and for the other members of our staff who work faithfully for the ministry with only a small recompense due to financial constraints. Their joy and patience is a constant encouragement and blessing to me. I feel very privileged to be able to work with them. These young people are manning the ministries we birthed. After having been discipled, they are now

taking on the role of spiritual leaders for their own people. I'm so blessed to see my time here is showing fruitful results.

Hurricane Isaac came and went without too much damage to our area. Banana trees always suffer when there is strong wind, but in 6 months they can be producing again. Fruit trees were also damaged and many breadfruit, avocado and others will not be able provide the desired produce for hungry Haitians. Several goats and cows were washed away by heavy rains that flowed through mountain passes. As a result, some roads will be impassable for a time. Thankfully, there was no loss of human life.

President Martelly has been working tirelessly for his people, trying to help Haitians have a better life. Please pray for him and his advisors so that things will change for the better. So much could be done, so much needs to be done, but we are content for now to do what is possible considering the resources that we have.

There are many people to whom we owe thanks in recent days, here are just a few: the women at Dutilh United Methodist Church in Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania for donating over \$900 from their annual flea market to benefit Gospel Growers. This kind gesture is deeply appreciated!

Also, a hug or two goes to the ladies from Gulf Prairie Presbyterian Church who put together a marvelous cookbook and sent a portion of the proceeds to GG. Another faithful group of women who support this ministry do so through their outreach called 'Sam's Club'—catchy, isn't it? Those giving through Ruth Class, Seekers, Sunday schools, 55-Plus and churches—know that your generosity touches our hearts! May our Lord bless ALL who have given to the ministry of Gospel Growers.

Thank you so much for helping Gospel Growers continue to help the people of Haiti and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as far as we can and as much as we are able.

Blessings, Sam

"A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor". Proverbs 22:9

"He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward him for what he has done." Proverbs 19:17