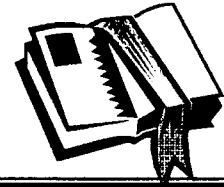


GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

COLLEGE EVANGELIQUE LE LUTHERIEN



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Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who suffered, died and rose again for our justification.

I am so thankful to God for the opportunity to write you this in which I am going to share with you a few things that are really helpful for all of us who are working together in the Lord's Vine.

First of all, I want, in the name of all the saints that I am serving and in my own, thank you so much for your continuing support (prayers, donations, love, concern and continuing support regarding the students' adoption. Without these blessings it would be almost impossible for us to carry out the ministry entrusted to us. The cost of living is getting higher and higher, this, not only in Haiti but probably in other countries also. This makes our burdens heavier but fortunately the Holy Son of God, Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer took away all our sins, which were the heaviest burdens that the world has ever known. Living in a conflict and sinful world, it seems like we are still under a type of social and physical burdens, which naturally has nothing to see with our life hidden in Jesus, our Substitute.

Concerning the truck, I went to the KIA store in PAP to see what the price is right now. Unfortunately I found that it is higher now. Why is that? I am told that this change comes from the foreign company where the KIAs are imported and also people buy them a lot since they are, in spite of all, the cheapest trucks down here comparing to others. I ask the KIA store in Haiti to prepare a PROFORMA to be sent to you so that you could see what the price is for now. They have none left now. The new delivery will come in July. According to what they told me, we'll not have other expenses relating to the purchase of the truck.

I have received the catechisms, which are a summary of the small catechism, which is very good for our students. I send you a copy so that you can see what they like. It is very important to get them because we need Lutheran Christian materials for the children/students attending our congregations and schools. You know the schools are means of evangelism. I received a total of 280 of them. I also received 96 Christian Doctrines that are also a summary of our book "The Christian Doctrine". Those books are all important for the ministry down here. They will be shared with the 9 districts. At least each teacher will have one and some students also. I hope to have more so that each child/student can get one. The French catechism is more welcomed in Haiti because the

young people are interested in the French than the Creole. Everything at school is done in French and the official exam prepared by the State is done also in French, so they have more concern for the French. Since they are received at the end of May, they are not distributed yet, this will be done the coming September.

I find myself in my little shoes to get the exact word or expression to express the gratitude and thankfulness of our church for the blessings of the books. I ask God to bless all those who contribute in a way or another in order to get those books to us. Their work and efforts are not vain in the Lord. Pictures of the children/students using the books will be sent after. They are in vacation.

The conditions in Haiti right now: As you all know, we now have a new government. We've got very good elections as far as the credibility relating to them are concerned. The people did go massively on vote. Before the new government came in power, the situations were really chaotic. The phenomenon of kidnappings and killings was so scaring; most of the families were afraid of going out. Comparing to the way it was, I would say there are some changes. The country is more peaceful now. The population is moving from place to place. We have less killings and kidnappings and the people are happier. Me, personally even though I am able to go around and do my work, I am still very careful. It is safer and more stable though. People are excited about the new government thinking that things will get much better (such as: security, the cost of living, jobs, health and so on). The unrest and the cost of living remain the main preoccupation for the nation. The people are really starving and you can see that even in the faces and eyes of the members of the church. In this sense, any kind of donation would help purchasing some bags of rice and beans for some of the saints who are really experiencing a tough life. We have already done what we could with our little possibility but it's still a real concern for the church that is called to feed people spiritually and physically. There is no doubt that one-day these concerns will be all gone, but since we are still pilgrims in this world we need to deal with different type of problems. We are praying for the new government even though the leaders are not Christians, we are confident that our good and merciful God can change their hearts and bring out changes and improvement for the well being of his people.

School is over now; the children/students are all in summer break, which is just two months. They will be back on September. God's willing. But we still need to take care of our teachers for the months of May and June. We owe them two months.

Other information: The seventh grade class that has 34 students and the ninth, which also has a total of 14 students, go to the final test organized by the state. We pray that they will all pass. Before ending with my report, I want to express my thanks to all of you who are sponsoring our school. You are a real blessing for many souls in Haiti. Your Christian actions will change many lives (spiritually, socially and physically).

May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ continue to bless you and your ministry!


Pastor Thomas Bernard,