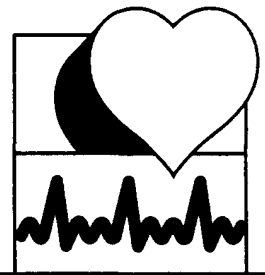


The Heartbeat

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Heart-4-Haiti Lutheran Mission Society - Trinity Lutheran Church, Vallonia, IN

Volume 3, Number 2

August, 2007



From Pastor Thomas Bernard

Dear Sponsors and Supporters of the Students' Adoption and of the Lord's Ministry in Haiti,

Grace and Peace to you from God our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I am thankful to God for the privilege to write you this whose purpose is to thank you ever so much for your commitment and also to keep you informed about the status of the work down here and the actual situation of the country.

First of all, I want to thank you all for the blessings you are sharing with us. I give thanks to our God for such a commitment on your part. Without it, it would be almost impossible for us to carry out the ministry.

At Good Shepherd we have experienced various blessings from you. They contribute greatly to the progress of the work. Our generator is still running very well and with it the church is able to hold all its evening activities; a digital camera has been donated to me by a couple from Trinity Lutheran Church in Vallonia. It is easier to send pictures to you now. What about the brand new KIA truck? This is really something I cannot explain. With it I am able to go everywhere in Haiti. I don't care now about the pedestrian kidnappers. Since it is brand new, it won't leave me in the dark streets where some kidnappers might hide themselves trying to capture people. My windows are always up and I always want to make sure that my tank is not empty. Even though all of us down here are always suspect while in the streets, but with a brand new vehicle the chance to be captured by those evil guys is minimal.

Thanks be to God, the situation is better now. The country is more peaceful. The people are able to go down town to take care of their activities. Many of the kidnappers are arrested and sentenced. Our children feel more confident while going to school and in the neighborhood. You can now see a real joy and a smile on the face of the children, teachers, and others. There are even some little parties around the street now during the evening. Our Lord is always good to us.

In the name of the children/students/teachers who benefit from the sponsorship program, I want to thank you so much for your commitment and your Christian love. In one more year some of our students will be going to the university. Isn't that

something? Together we are saving souls for our Lord and making better citizens for the nation.

We all know it; this world offers nothing lasting to our new generation. But they have everything they need for a well-balanced life. First, they have the inspired Word of God which is their first need, and then they have education which will allow them to read God's Word, and be witnesses to others and become self-supporters.

We have a two-month school vacation. Children/students will be back to school the second week of September.

If you are not yet a sponsor of a child, please do so for this coming academic school year. By so doing you will save him/her spiritually and physically.

Again, thank you so much and may our Heavenly Father continue to bless you and your ministry!

Sincerely,
Pastor Thomas Bernard,
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Prayer Requests

- For the government of Haiti
- For the churches and pastors of Haiti
- For the safety of God's people in Haiti
- Beginning of the school year in Haiti, which starts on Wednesday, September 5
- Pastor Bernard's safe travel to Indiana
- Blessings on his trip to the United States
- For the 6 new pastors in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti (2 being in the Port-au-Prince District)
- For the newly elected President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti, Rev. Markey Kessa

June 19, 2007

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. In Haiti, at our Lutheran School, we feel so happy because of the education they give to us. We want to say "Thank you" for the blessings. The sponsorship program means a lot to us. Because of your help, even the more poor people have access to a good education - thanks be to God for that program!

It helps us very much to have access to a good education. For that reason we expect and believe this sponsorship will continue for many more years. Now we are close to the end of our high school days. Next year we will be in philosophy so we are ready for the university soon.

Because of your help, after our last class, we will be able to work and be good help for the church and the school. We will also be able to help our parents in changing their living condition. We will be able to help ourselves.

Thank you for all, and we pray that God will give you the opportunity to continue with the scholarship program, so we will be able to help our country, and we will become better citizens.

My name is Bérus Jean Enock. I am in the 12th Grade. There are 17 in my class.

May God bless you all!

Old Shoes Get New Life

Give your old shoes new life by donating them to Bright Hope International, a Christian relief organization. According to Denny Shewell, who spearheads the local effort in Salem, IN, more than 2,500 pairs of shoes have been collected in Washington Co., IN, over the past three years.

Shoes are required for adults to even be considered for a job and children need them to walk to school. Shoes may be dropped off at the High Street entrance of First Baptist Church of Salem, or at Tyson Thompson's insurance agency during normal business hours. Guidelines for donating: Shoes should be less than men's size 10; gym shoes, sandals, dress shoes, work boots & casual shoes. No slippers, winter boots or women's high heels. Shoes should be in reasonable condition - no holes, missing laces, etc. Please tie or rubberband the pairs together. For more information, contact Denny or Jean Shewell at 1-812-883-4958.



12th Grade Students (2006-2007)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Recent News from Pastor Bernard

Pastor Bernard wrote on July 28th that he had returned from Houston TX, where he attended the 63rd convention of the LCMS. He wrote "We are ok back here and things are getting much better as far as the political situation is concerned." In Haiti they are preparing for the 8th annual convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti, which will be held in their district, at Port-au-Prince, from Aug 9-12, 2007. Six vicars will be ordained at that time. That means they will have six new pastors! He writes, "Thank you for your continuing support and may our risen Savior continue to bless you and yours!"



Natives of a Haitian village sort through donated shoes

PASTOR BERNARD TO VISIT JACKSON COUNTY, INDIANA FROM SEPTEMBER 6-24

Pastor Thomas Bernard to Speak @ Trinity, Vallonia Fish Fry
Don't miss our 6th Annual Fish Fry on Sunday, September 9. Serving will be from 4-7 pm. The "Blue Grass Gospel Alliance" Band will be performing on the stage from 5:30-6:30 pm. Pastor Thomas Bernard, the Pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, will also be speaking!
Trinity Lutheran Church is located 2 miles south of Vallonia on State Road 135.

The Itinerary for Pastor Thomas Bernard's September 2007 Trip to Jackson County, Indiana

Sunday, September 9	Preaching @ Emanuel Lutheran Church, Dudleytown (Worship @ 8:30 am; Bible Study @ 9:30 am) Speaking at Fish Fry (4-7 pm) @ Trinity, Vallonia
Monday, September 10	Speaking @ Lutheran Central School Chapel (8:30 am) and visiting classrooms
Tuesday, September 11	Speaking @ Franklin College Convocation (11:00 am)
Wednesday, September 12	Speaking @ Zion Lutheran School Chapels and visiting classrooms Preaching @ St. Peter Lutheran Church, Brownstown (7:00 pm)
Thursday, September 13	Visiting Trinity Lutheran High School classrooms
Friday, September 14	Preaching @ Trinity Lutheran High School Chapel (10:00 am)
Sunday, September 16	Preaching and Leading Bible Study @ Trinity Lutheran Church, Vallonia (Bible Study @ 8:30 am; Worship @ 9:30 am) Preaching @ Faith Lutheran Church, Salem (11:30 am)
Monday, September 17	Speaking @ St. John Lutheran School (Lanesville) Chapel/visiting classrooms
Tuesday, September 18	Speaking @ Immanuel Lutheran School Chapel/visiting classrooms (8:30 am) Attending Brownstown/Seymour Circuits Pastors Conference
Wednesday, September 19	Speaking @ St. Peter Lutheran School Chapel @ 8:00 am (Columbus) Speaking at LWML Meeting @ Trinity Lutheran Church, Vallonia (7:00 pm)
Thursday, September 20	Creation Museum Trip
Friday, September 21	Speaking @ St. John Lutheran School Chapel (Sauers)/visiting classrooms
Sunday, September 23	Preaching @ St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wegan (Bible Study @ 9:15 am; Worship @ 10:00 am) LWML Seymour Zone Rally, Sauers (Registration @ 1:30 pm)