

journey serves: haiti



- Simply expressed an interest in somehow getting involved!

This “Journey Serves: Haiti” newsletter is intended to serve as an update for people who have a particular interest in Journey’s partnership with *Mission Eglise de Dieu Union Chretienne par la Foi* (“Church of God Mission, Christian Union by Faith,” better known to us as “Pastor Edouard’s Church”). More specifically, this newsletter is for all Journey people who have:

- Provided (or committed to providing) financial support to Haiti
- Been to Haiti as part of a Journey team
- Gotten involved in “Journey Serves: Haiti” in some other way, or

Our partnership with Pastor Edouard and his church continues to be strong! Here are some highlights.

Medical Clinic

The medical clinic remains a beacon in the community of Carrefour, where Pastor Edouard’s church is located. The Journey community continues to exceed our monthly goal of \$3,000, and your generous donations are used primarily to keep the medical clinic fully funded. According to records provided by Dr. Carlo, who has overseen the clinic since it was opened in January of 2010, the clinic treated over **3,000 cases in 2011** representing over 30 types of conditions! It truly is not an overstatement to say that the medical clinic that Journey’s contributions make possible has transformed health care and perhaps even saved lives in the community of Carrefour, Haiti.

Due to the significant need for a physician with training as an ear, nose and throat specialist in Carrefour, Dr. Carlo has enrolled in a Haitian university to earn an additional degree in that field of medicine. In order to ensure that the clinic stays open full-time while Dr. Carlo pursues his additional degree, he has brought in a second physician that he personally evaluated and hired, and who serves as the physician in the clinic when Dr. Carlo is going through his additional training.

While the clinic continues to function well, the stock of medical supplies within the clinic has clearly gone down since the clinic opened a little over a year ago. **The need is still great, so please continue your generous financial support!**

School Construction

Progress on the school within Pastor Edouard’s church continues, thanks to over \$15,000 in one-time donations by members of Journey Community Church. The original plan was to build a second story on top of the church and have that story serve as the school. However, Pastor Edouard ended up having another vision – to have the first floor serve as the school, and to have the second floor serve as the church. Pastor Edouard’s vision includes a balcony in order to allow for additional seating for church services.

As of last month, when the most recent Journey group traveled to Haiti, the walls on the second story were up and the balcony had been built. Local workers are performing all construction, and it is now possible to really see what the finished product will look like, which is very exciting!

The original estimate for building the school on top of the church was \$17,000. When the decision was made to convert the first floor into the school, however, and to add both a second story and a balcony on top of the original structure, the estimate went up to \$27,000. True to his nature, Pastor Edouard has not asked for any more money, and the goal remains to open the school in the fall. Pastor Edouard is simply proceeding with his amazing, rock-solid faith that God will provide in His time and in His way.



Haiti Trips

Between May of 2010, when Ed and Marko first visited Haiti together, and January 2012, Journey has sent a total of 10 groups and over 100 people to Haiti. Each participant has covered his or her own expenses, and none of your monthly contributions have gone toward these trips – nor will they!



Those who have traveled to Haiti in one of these groups will testify that it was a life-changing experience. Different groups have gone with different purposes, including: Goal-setting and planning with Pastor Edouard and Dr. Carlo; getting the medical clinic set up and providing medical care; buying and delivering food and water to families in Pastor Edouard's church community; and just generally building relationships with our brothers and sisters in Carrefour.



Our most recent group held an arts and crafts workshop at our partner church, and 110 children from the church and the surrounding community attended. The workshop lasted about two hours, and the children had the chance to do various kinds of crafts, to sing and play music, and to learn Bible stories. Another recent group helped to kick-start an English class that is now being offered at the church on Saturday mornings. Learning English, of course, can be a way of helping create employment options for Haitians.

Pray, Go, and Give

From the start, this church-to-church partnership was meant to be a long-term relationship. And from the start, we have all had at least three different ways of being personally involved: We can **PRAY**, we can **GO**, and we can **GIVE**.

So, please do **PRAY** for Pastor Edouard and his church community. We know that he and his church keep Journey in their prayers!



For those of you who feel called to **GO** to Haiti, there will be plenty more opportunities! In fact, Journey plans to send several groups to Haiti in 2012, so if you are interested in going to Haiti, just e-mail Suzie Blank requesting information about upcoming trips. You can send her a message by clicking on her name on the “Journey Serves: Haiti” page in “Journey Connect,” and then clicking on “send an e-mail” in the upper right corner.

Finally, for those of you who already **GIVE** financially – **THANK YOU!** Your generous monthly donations are helping to provide for countless people’s medical care and other

basic needs, and your generous one-time donations are helping to ensure that children are able to get an education.

If you are a monthly donor, please be sure to switch your automatic donations over from the old “Auto-Tithe” system on the Journey website to the new automatic giving method through “Journey Connect.” And, of course, if you are **NOT** already a monthly donor, it’s never too late to start! It is very easy to get set up for automatic giving through “Journey Connect.” Simply click on the “Give” tab at the top of the page, select one of the “Repeating Gift” options (“Checking Account” or “Bank/Credit Card”), and enter the requested information.

Thank you so much for your support of our partner church in Haiti! Your prayers for and donations to our partner church are greatly appreciated, and they truly are making a huge difference in a community where the need continues to be so great.

Blessings,
David Merk
Community Impact Pastor
Journey Community Church