

Living Hope Ministries in Haiti

January-February 2022 Newsletter



Welcome to the PRESCHOOL Issue!

Our goal for the 2022 Newsletters is to keep you informed on the various areas of the school and ministry at Living Hope.



The preschoolers at LHM are like preschoolers just about anywhere. Active, busy, boisterous, noisy, curious, hungry, energetic, and extremely adorable. **Staff:** Our Preschool has its own qualified Director, Berline, who has been with the preschool since 2009. We also have two school principals who are always in the yard, visiting classrooms and supervising the children. We have a weekly teacher meeting and training session, and at least once a year, there is a week-long teacher training seminar. Each classroom has a qualified preschool teacher and a teacher's aide. Also, there are two additional staff for the preschool who keep the classrooms clean and do whatever is needed to help.



Classrooms: Our policy has always been a maximum of 25 in a preschool class. This year we have 23 children in the Preschool 1 class, 23 children in the Preschool 2 class, and 24 children in the Preschool 3 class for a total of 70 preschoolers. The students sit at small tables (picnic) with 4 or 6 students to a table.

Each preschool class uses many supplies during the school year: white and colored paper, poster boards, construction paper, glitter, glue, paints, chalk, books, worksheets, toys, crayons, pencils, play dough, chalk boards, scissors, buttons, and puzzles, to name a few.

During the school day, the students all receive a nutritious hot meal daily of rice, corn meal, or bulger, always served with beans to make a complete protein.

Grade levels: Preschool 1 has the 3-year-olds. They are being taught socialization skills, individual and group play, and other activities. They are also taught basic language (Creole, French, and English), pre-writing, pre-reading, pre-math, directed and free drawing and art, group PE, directions (right, left, up, down...), colors, and shapes.



Preschool 2 is made up of the 4-year-olds, and they will continue to build on the foundation they received in Preschool 1. In this level, they will learn to write and recognize their names; know and recite the alphabet; and begin phonics, reading, and writing.

Preschool 3 or Kindergarten are the 5-year-olds preparing for 1st grade next year. They continue to build on the foundations from the previous classes, and will begin reading, writing, and verbally communicating with their classmates, teachers, and others. They will learn to copy and do dictation. They will also be able to do lacing and sorting without difficulty.



Every year of schooling builds on the previous year(s). For example: Preschool 1 learns to scribble, to make lines and circles. Preschool 2 puts letters together with the lines and circles. Preschool 3 puts the letters together to form words. Everything in education is a progression of knowledge and understanding. **Sponsorship:** Living Hope Ministries doesn't sponsor individual preschool students due to their age and inability to communicate with their sponsors. But we do offer preschool classroom sponsorships. If you are interested in sponsoring preschool class, please contact Patty Davis at patty.davis10@gmail.com. We hope you enjoyed your "visit" at the Preschool!

Our Mission: To train a generation of young men and women to change their families, communities, and nation with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Word and Action.

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Teachers teaching Teachers

Patty Davis and Kelly Arehart, two LHM Board members and both teachers at home, traveled to LHM to help provide training and enrichment to the teachers at the mission (and lots of love to the students).



Patty: In October of 2017, Mary Jane/Andris visited my church, The Gathering, in Adair, Oklahoma, which led to a wonderful time of getting acquainted and ultimately an invitation to visit Haiti. The following January 2018, Mary Jane made it possible for me to meet Kelly Arehart via email, and we began to make plans to conduct a seminar for the Living Hope Ministries school teachers in February.

Our long weekend consisted of two days of sharing various teaching techniques for enhancing reading skills such as sequencing, comprehension, retelling, etc. and making math games. We made many learning-center games for both of these subjects. The rest of our weekend was spent playing with the children, attending church services, and going with Mary Jane into Port Au Prince to do some shopping.



Although this was my first trip to LHM, I thoroughly enjoyed myself, and more importantly, I fell in love with the teachers and children. I was amazed with the high level of learning expectations, structure, and love between the teachers and the children and how the education of the children was accomplished with minimal supplies.

This trip was definitely ordained by the Lord and enhanced my passion and love for missions and especially my heart for teaching, training, and supporting teachers. My prayer is to return to Haiti someday and participate in additional teacher training along with sharing Jesus' love to the Haitian people, particularly the children and teachers.

Kelly: I have been blessed with the opportunity to spend several weeks over the past years with the Early Education Teachers at Living Hope. I have worked with this group of teachers many times throughout the years. And each time,

we are able to take knowledge and skills gained in the leadership conferences and use them in the classroom.



Traveling to LHM has given me and those I have gone with, like Patty Davis, valuable time with the teachers. And we have always been blessed to both teach and learn.

Spending a full day observing each classroom of 3, 4, and 5-year-olds as well as the kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade classes allowed us to see the strengths of each of the teachers and the places where improvement might be needed. We then spent a day working together on lesson plans and classroom activities. The teachers love to teach, and when given the challenges and the expectations of what using their gifts looks like, they have the potential to really excel. Taking the skills and the lessons we learned, we began to do hands on work in the classroom.

This practical development of the teachers of LHM will continue to help make LHM a strong example and an influence on the quality of education in Haiti.



One of the best ways to make change happen in Haiti is through the youth. This begins with their teachers. Living Hope is working to change the way children are taught, with the Gospel going forth daily. I have been so honored and blessed to have had the opportunity, not only to be a part of the work the Lord is doing in Haiti, but to be able to do it with amazing people like Patty Davis.

Would You Like to Sponsor a Student at Living Hope Ministries in Haiti?

Living Hope student sponsorship is so important because it provides the children with a daily hot nutritious meal, textbooks, and school supplies. It also provides a substantial part of the teacher's salaries. There are currently 190 sponsored students out of the 290 currently enrolled. Our prayer is for full sponsorship of all 1st - 6th graders. 100% of our graduating 6th graders pass the government exams and go onto a local high school. Help support the next generation in Haiti with a Christian education and vocational training. Would you be willing to help sponsor one child at \$40 a month?

For more information, contact Mark Gunderson at markleegund@gmail.com or call/text at 248-521-9240.

What's Happening in Haiti?

An update from Mary Jane and Andris

Hello to all of our friends and family,

The situation in Haiti remains about the same, with gang wars and road blocks in many areas, so it is very dangerous and impassable most of the time. If someone really has to get to Port-au-Prince, they go over the mountains on a partially finished road that has desolate areas and can be dangerous also.

Our schools continue to function daily, and most students are here – except those who went to the country or relatives at the end of December and have not made it back (which is about 7 students).

We have received the test results. 92% of our students passed the governmental trade school exams last fall.

We are working on the construction projects now. We have poured the welding classroom roof. We put up the walls and are getting ready to pour the church extension roof. Next, we will put up the cooking school 2nd floor walls and get that roof poured. Then we will go back and finish the plastering of the 3 buildings. Andris is really busy with supervising all the construction.

Andris is teaching and preaching a series on God's love. Mary Jane is teaching *The Women of the Bible* with the women's group.

Please continue to pray for the political situation in Haiti. Pray for an end to the gang control that is now in many parts of Haiti. And pray for forgiveness and blessing for the leaders of Haiti according to 1 Timothy 2:1-2.

Love and prayers,
Mary Jane and Andris

An interesting FACT about Living Hope Ministries in Haiti, Inc.

Did you know that if you search the Internet for Living Hope Ministries, there are at least four (4) other organizations in Haiti that use the phrase "Living Hope" in their name? And **many** more worldwide? So, if you are looking for us on the web, we are www.livinghopehaiti.org. Be sure to use: .org. (not .com)

Learn More About Haiti: Due to the unrest in Haiti in recent months and years, it has been difficult for Mary Jane and Andris to travel in and out of Haiti to come and share with your church, Bible Study, or other group, or even to come to the Fall Benefit. But other members of the LHM Board would be happy to fill in for them in this regard. No meeting is too small or too large. Please write to LHM at PO Box 3578, Dublin, OH 43016-0290 or email to livinghopeministries94@gmail.com to request a visit.

Current Fund-Raising Initiatives:

Two Projects:

1.) Shoring up and expanding the meeting area between the side of church and the primary school.

2.) Finishing the entrance road.

Thank you ahead of time for your generous giving to enable us to accomplish these projects.

How to Donate Gifts of Hope for LHM

- 1) **Electronic giving online** at www.livinghopehaiti.org
 - a. Direct payments from a Checking or Savings account (one-time or recurring)
 - b. Credit Card payments (one-time or recurring)
- 2) **Checks by mail** made payable to Living Hope Ministries in Haiti.

Giving categories: Please note a giving category in the memo field if you desire (see examples below):

- Church/Community Project
- Youth University Fund
- Student Sponsorship (include Student's number)
- Trade School
- Pre-School
- Operating Expenses
- Construction Projects

Visit Haiti on a Mission Trip

We are praying for stability to return to the nation of Haiti. When it does, we look forward to welcoming you to Haiti for a mission trip. If you are considering a visit, let us know! We would love to have you. There are lots of exciting things happening at LHM!

Please contact Mary Jane and Andris directly at:
MJJolibois14@gmail.com
or skype phone #614-602-2802.

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Our Mission

To train a generation of young men and women to change their families, communities, and nation with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Word and Action.



Donations

Please send checks to **this Ohio address:**

Living Hope Ministries in Haiti
P.O. Box 3578 Dublin,
OH 43016-0290

(Do not) send cash or checks directly to Haiti.)

For **online electronic giving**, go to:

www.livinghopehaiti.org/donation

Sponsor Packages

For single boxes, cards, and letters to Haiti only (**do not** enclose checks or cash).

Send to:

Mary Jane & Andris Jolibois
Living Hope Ministries
C/O Agape Flights (Acct # 16278)
100 Airport Ave.
Venice, FL 34285

Do not send money to this address.

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***Thank-You to everyone who contributes to and/or prays for LHM.
You are a blessing to us, and you are reaching the people of Haiti with Christ's Love in Action.***