



# Living Hope Ministries in Haiti

March-April 2023 Newsletter



## News from Mary Jane and Andris

**Good day, family, friends, and partners in ministry!**

It is drizzly day here in Haiti. We are starting to have some rain after about 4 months of dryness.

We continue to push ahead in spite of the insecurity and unstable political situation in Haiti. We remain in very troubled times with lots of uncertainty, but we believe God will intervene in His divine timing, which isn't always our timing. It is still incredibly problematic to get to Port-au-Prince through the gang-controlled areas. We stay busy at the mission with the ministry, and continue to pray for safety and protection for all the staff, students, and everyone in Haiti.

This is a rough year for many of the students and their families due to the continued raising inflation rate (at 48% in March). Crime and violence is up 80% already this year.

We opened the primary school for the new school year in January and are pushing forward. We are giving very few days off due to the number of school days we have already had to miss. The students are scheduled to have classes through the end of August. Then the new school year is to begin the 1<sup>st</sup> week of September!

The Trade School classes also opened entirely in January. The students and staff are present on extra days due to all the missed days/months. They come in as they can. Our students in the trade school always go throughout the summer months and end in August. We continue to assess the political situation, gang activity, and general climate in Haiti (especially in our area). The government exams have already been rescheduled 3 times this year, and now they are scheduled the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August.

We just got the final results of the government trade school licensure exams from last year. Great news! 100 % of cooking and sewing students passed, and 98 % of the business students passed.

Mary Jane has one new cooking textbook to write for June. Then she will finalize all corrections and changes for the upcoming school year and turn the cooking books over to the cooking teachers.

Supplies are still very limited; often there is no gas, diesel, or propane in our area and limited grocery store and construction items. We had city electricity for less than 2 hours in March and none in April (so far). For several grocery items, we buy everything when we see it because it may be 4 months or longer before we find it again. It is the same with fuel and construction supplies. Also, the next time we do find things, you can be assured the price will be inflated much more. This makes shopping very difficult.

We are happy and blessed to report that the damaged wall repair is finished, and the new perimeter wall is done. (Please see the video on our website.) Currently we are working and progressing on the gathering center. The foundation, support posts, and walls are done. Now they are preparing the roof beams, and then the roof can be poured. Andris has been 100% occupied with construction, church services, Bible Studies, and the overall supervision.

**Follow Living Hope Ministries in Haiti on Instagram and Facebook for exciting and current videos and photos of activities at LHM.**

***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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**Thank you if you are getting your LHM Newsletter by email!**

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[www.LivingHopeHaiti.org](http://www.LivingHopeHaiti.org)

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## News from Mary Jane and Andris (cont.)

**We were asked by our Board of Directors: What are your goals for 2023? These are our goals:**

1. To provide safety and security for our students and staff as they pursue receiving an education and advancing themselves.
2. To continue to give a high-quality education to every student: spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically by providing daily devotions in classes, weekly chapel services, Haitian curriculum, music classes, English, and hands on classes (Paper Art, Canvas Art, Shop, Basic Sewing, Embroidery, Cooking, Crocheting, and String Art.)
3. To enable and assist the Primary School Directrice and Principals to direct and run the primary school without our assistance, making them independent in the decision making. We are encouraging them to do weekly teacher training classes and have Parent-Teacher meetings every control period.
4. To assist the Trade School Secretary and teachers to function more independently and continue to produce a high-quality education for the students.
5. To support and encourage our Music Director, who is now checking the teacher lesson plans, correcting the curriculums, overseeing the teachers, receiving the grades, and overseeing chapel services.
6. To provide teachers with training seminars, appreciation luncheons, and encouragement in giving 100% to their students and classes.
7. To provide the primary school students with a science lab and computer lab in the future.

**Our most important goal is to honor Christ in all of our activities and behaviors.**

**To that end, we continue to teach about Christian character and living.**

*Our love and prayers for all of you. Mary Jane & Andris*

**Meet Team Negley!** Karen Negley serves as LHM's Secretary. She and her husband, Rick have traveled to Haiti twice with their family in the past.



God gave me and my family members the blessing of making two trips to LHM in Haiti. In 2012 we went with a whole team and helped plan and lead a VBS. It was a wonderful time of learning and growing for all of us. We had Creole lessons each morning, which were great fun. The VBS was a whirlwind, but the Haitian leaders did an excellent job and the students enjoyed learning so much. Worship with the children on Sunday was a real treat, hearing their voices praise Jesus.

A very special time was when we got to meet one of our sponsored boys. What a joy and blessing for our family to make that face-to-face connection!

In 2016, my husband Rick and I and 2 of our daughters returned. Rick and I led a seminar on Biblical marriages and families, with Mary Jane and Andris translating. All were eager to listen and learn. Andris was a great help with understanding of the Haitian culture and ways. Our daughters, Mary and Hope, worked with some of the girls to teach them about dance as worship, and worked together with them on a dance to a worship song that they shared as an offering to the Lord during Sunday worship.

During both of our trips, I was struck again and again by the grace of God in the lives of Mary Jane and Andris as they rely on Him for direction, protection, provision, and empowerment from the Holy Spirit to get up at 5 am and go and serve and keep going and serving until late at night with joy, gratitude, love, patience, and perseverance. Jesus, the Gospel, prayer, and Bible study are front and center in all they do. I praise God for them and the lasting fruit that God is producing through them in the lives of Haitians for His glory.



Left to right:  
Worshipping through dance at the Sunday Service and the Biblical Marriage and Family Seminar.

### **Student sponsorship is a very important way to support Living Hope.**

We always have students that need to be sponsored – by a family, a couple, or an individual. If you chose to sponsor, you will be assigned a student. You can also partner with one of our preschool classes or one of our trade school classes.

Student sponsorship is so important because it provides the children with a daily hot and nutritious meal, textbooks, and school supplies. It also provides a substantial part of the teachers' salaries. And you have the added blessing of having the opportunity to build a relationship with your student if you like. The suggested donation to sponsor one child is \$40/month.

For more information, contact Mark Gunderson at [markleegund@gmail.com](mailto:markleegund@gmail.com) or call/text at 248-521-9240.

# The Good Work Continues at LHM



Sometimes, it seems like there is no end to the bad news coming out of Haiti. And it is true that the violence and instability continues to have a strong hold on the country. And there are many hardships to be faced. The “new normals” that have become commonplace as a result of the corruption, gang control, and threats of violence have been hard to adjust to, but Living Hope is able to count many blessings throughout the turmoil of the past few years. Just look at the picture above. The final portions of the outer wall, started so many years ago, is finally complete! God provided the funds, building materials, and laborers to make it happen. The hole broken in the wall behind the church is fixed and the wall has been reinforced with new strength. The new Gathering Center is under construction and will provide a safe shelter for many activities and Bible studies. Even though the electricity and internet has been spotty, we were able to host our first Zoom gathering with Mary Jane and Andris. Our supporters were able to see them, talk with them, and ask their own questions. The school is open and functioning at full capacity, and Church services have never had to stop. The students, staff, and families have all been safe as they come and go. God continues to richly bless Living Hope Ministries in Haiti. Please continue to pray with us for a another new normal to begin: one of peace and safety for all of Haiti, for the violence to stop, and all eyes to turn to God.

## HOW TO DONATE TO LIVING HOPE MINISTRIES IN HAITI

Donate online at the **WEBSITE:** [www.livinghopehaiti.org](http://www.livinghopehaiti.org). Click on DONATE to get started.

Donate on **FACEBOOK:** <http://www.facebook.com/LivingHopeMinistriesHaiti>. Click the LEARN MORE button at the right side of the page.

Write a **CHECK** and mail it to: Living Hope Ministries in Haiti; PO Box 3578; Dublin, OH 43016-0920. Write the project you are donating toward in the memo space.

**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](mailto:livinghopeministries94@gmail.com) to request a visit.

**Zoom gatherings for your church or group are available upon request.**

### **Current Fund-Raising Initiatives:**

Two Projects:

1.) Complete the partially finished entrance road.

2.) Provide for the operational costs: supplies and materials for classes, salaries, building and yard upkeep, animals, etc.

*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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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.**

### Board Members

Rev. Mary Jane Jolibois – President & International Director

Rev. Jean Andris Jolibois – Haitian Director

Rev. Hope Boring – Vice President

Nancy Thorbahn – Treasurer

Karen Negley – Secretary

Tom Single – Executive Committee Member

Deanna Breeding – Newsletter Editor

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Penny Boggs – Administration Bookkeeper

Living Hope Ministries in Haiti, Inc. (LHM) is a 501(c)3 Tax-Exempt Organization and a member of ECA (Evangelical Church Alliance)

***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.***