

# Living Hope Ministries in Haiti

December 2018 Newsletter



## Reflections on Christmas in Haiti From Mary Jane and Andris

Christmas in Haiti in our area is not full of bags of toys and gifts; it is not even full of Christmas dinners and family time. Some of the churches in Haiti even preach against celebrating Christmas! **But here at Living Hope, we teach the children, youth, and adults that it is a remembrance that Jesus was born a man so He could live, die, and be resurrected to give us life everlasting. Without His birth there would be no salvation in His name today.** On Christmas day this year, the youth will be having a talent show and Bible competition for all to attend. God bless you all and always rejoice in Jesus, the true reason for celebrating Christmas.

*Love to you all, Mary Jane and Andris Jolibois  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

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## Pen Pals!

### Second Graders Here Send Letters and Gifts to Second Graders in Haiti

"Where is Haiti?" "What do their schools look like?" "What do kids like to do in Haiti?" These were just a few of the dozens of questions my second grade students asked me when they learned that they would be pen pals with the second graders at Living Hope. My name is Rachel Hoertz, and I teach in Dublin, Ohio. 3 years ago, I was excited to help launch the first pen pal exchange between students in the U.S. with students in Haiti. Every year I show my class photos and the video on the Living Hope website of the school and students. The class is transfixed that first day to learn as much as they can about life in another country. They excitedly begin writing letters filled with many questions and some information about themselves. Every year we write back and forth with the second grade class many times. They send us colorful notes and we send down a bag of toys/schools supplies for each child in December.

This experience, in my opinion, has enabled children from both countries to feel more like global citizens. By learning about each other, they gain new points of view about the world and the people in it. They practice reading and writing skills for an authentic purpose as they communicate back and forth. Although I teach at a public school, the encouraging faith-based words that come from many of the Haitian students are a witness to my multicultural class. I hope to continue this communication with Living Hope every year so more children can benefit from this cross-cultural relationship.

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

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Our Mission: To train a generation  
of young men and women to  
change their families,  
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in Word and Action.

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

LHM is a 501(c)3 Tax-Exempt Organization & A member of ECA (Evangelical Church Alliance)

# What's Happening at Living Hope?

## H2O Church at Ohio State Visits Again

H2O Church at The Ohio State University has been a faithful supporter of LHM for a number of years – led by Pastor Mike Malone. Each December or January, a large group of students and church leaders give up part of their winter break to travel to the mission. This year is no different. Seventeen men and women are planning on conducting a VBS at the mission as they have done in years past. We pray for their safe travel to and from Haiti in this difficult and sometimes volatile time for the country. Please pray with us.

### Mary Jane Writes Home to Mom... (or, a glimpse into a day in the life of the Mission)

Hi Mom, here is a picture of the 6yr old we take care of every weekend. Her dad died when she was in preschool 2 years ago, she is now in 1st grade. Her mom is going to school to become a teacher on the weekends. They live in a tough area, therefore we have her on the weekends. Yesterday after church I had her help make stove top cookies. So, she had to stand on a chair to work. Would it be possible to send us some eyeglass cleaner with the group? A busy weekend and a new first week of Dec. Where did the year go?

Who won the final game OSU or Northwest?  
Love ya, Mary Jane



### Thanksgiving Meal at LHM....

A great big thank you for our gluten free Thanksgiving meal. I always use it as a teaching time with our 2nd year cooking students, and for that reason our Thanksgiving meal was delayed one week. I teach the students about Thanksgiving, and then we prepare the feast together. Everyone must give a prayer of thanks for something this past year. When done, they sit down to enjoy the first helpings. THIS YEAR there were 19 students and 2 teachers. Then, as they began the clean-up process, we served the second sitting of extended family and staff of 8. After that, our family sat down to enjoy the meal. So delicious. We then prepared the carcass, etc. for flavoring in the primary school food today. Already 6 of us have enjoyed leftovers this morning. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Blessings.

Mary Jane and Andris Jolibois, Living Hope Ministries in Haiti



## Sponsor a Student



Student sponsorship is so important because it provides the children with a hot nutritious meal daily, textbooks, and school supplies. Would you be willing to help sponsor one child at \$30 a month which is only \$1 a day or possibly even two children a month at \$2 a day? There are currently 200+ sponsored students out of the 600+ currently enrolled.

Our prayer is for 100% sponsorship. Thank you for your assistance in growing up the next generation in Haiti with a Christian education and vocational training.

For more information, contact Mark Gunderson at [MLGondo@comcast.net](mailto:MLGondo@comcast.net) or at 734-996-2435.



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# How Can You Be More Involved With Living Hope?

Time to start thinking about Care Packages! Christmas is a great time to send your student a gift. If you sponsor a student, you will soon be receiving a letter containing your student's photo, gender, age, birthday, grade in school, and clothing/shoe sizes. But if you want to get a head start, below is a generic list of acceptable and desired items. You can also include a note and picture of yourself for your student.

## Ideas to include in a Care Package to send to your Sponsored Student

- Do NOT send cash, checks, or gift cards to your student
- Gifts should be age appropriate (but brother/sisters may also use them)
- Lightly used items are very welcome (clothes from Salvation Army, Thrift stores, Re-use stores, or your own child's "out-grown" clothes)
- Recommendation: Send 2-3 packages a year (Christmas, Birthday, Easter, Start of School)
- Include a short letter and modest photos of you/family/pets (they cherish photos!)
- Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery
- Allow another 4-6 weeks for thank you letter/photo of your student with your Care Package
- Recommendation: Use a USPS "Priority Mail" box you can pick up for free from any post office
- **Clearly write with Bold Marker on the box the Student Name and Number**
- **DO NOT** include home address or personal phone numbers
- Mailing address for Care Packages/Letters:

**Mary Jane and Andris Jolibois**  
**Living Hope Ministries – Haiti**  
**C/O Agape Flights (Acct #: 16278)**  
**100 Airport Ave.**  
**Venice, FL 34285-3901**

## Girl or Boy

- Short letter about you and your family. Pray for them and their family.
- Include photo(s) of you/family/pets
- Backpack, shoulder bag, draw-string bag, purse
- Shoes (dress, sneakers, flip-flops, Crocs are very popular)
- Underwear, socks, T-shirts
- Craft kits/projects (e.g. necklaces, models, clay, bracelets, etc.)
- Small simple hand toys (e.g. slinky, yo-yo, super ball, jacks, wind-up toys, etc.)
- School supplies (e.g. pens/pencils, color books/crayons, notebooks, ruler)
- Art supplies (e.g. drawing pad, water colors, charcoal sticks, colored pencils, how-to books)
- Lunch bag/box
- Stuffed animals (e.g. good way to get rid of old beanie-babies!!)
- Card or Board games (e.g. Uno, checkers, Yahtzee, Farkle, etc.)
- Healthy snacks (e.g. Nuts/Peanuts, Trail/Granola bars, hard candy...no melty chocolates)
- Simple musical instrument (e.g. recorder, drum, small keyboard, etc.)
- Sport equipment (e.g. deflated soccer ball/inflator, soccer shoes, baseball & glove, etc.)
- Age appropriate computer or calculator
- Sunglasses
- Bible/Storybook with pictures
- SIMPLE English books (Note: Language proficiency: 1<sup>st</sup> Creole; 2<sup>nd</sup> French; 3<sup>rd</sup> English)
- Chewable tasty vitamins

### Girl Specific

Skirts, Skort, knee length (not too short)  
Colorful blouses, scarfs, cotton sweater  
Sunday dress, shoes, purse

### Boy Specific

Gym shorts, T-shirts  
Sunday dress shirt, dress pants,  
Dress belt

## 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), or
  - b. Credit Card payments (one-time or recurring)
- 2) **Checks by mail**, made payable to Living Hope Ministries in Haiti. Please note a giving category in the memo field if you desire (see examples below):

Giving categories:

- Church/Community Project
- Youth University Fund
- Student Sponsorship (please include your student's number)
- Primary/Trade School

### Current fund-raising initiatives:

Generous regular giving of approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000 per month for the continuous operations of the Mission.

Thank you for giving to enable us to reach this stage.

## Visit Haiti on a Mission Trip

If you are thinking about coming to Haiti on a mission trip, let us know!

We would love to have you.  
There are lots of exciting things happening here at LHM!

Please contact Mary Jane and Andris directly at [lh-m-haiti@hotmail.com](mailto:lh-m-haiti@hotmail.com) or skype phone #614-602-2802 in Haiti.

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**P.O. Box 3578**  
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### Mailing Address

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

**\*Do not** enclose checks or money in boxes. **Do not send money to this address.** Please consider sending \$2.50/pound to the Dublin, OH address to help cover customs and local shipping fees for packages you send to Haiti.

### Mailing Address for Funds\*

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

**\*Please send monetary donations to this Ohio address only.** Please do not send cash or checks directly to Haiti.

Thank you.

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