



## H.O.P.E. (Helping Others Prepare for Eternity)

March 17, 2017

Dear friends and family,

The Mardi Gras, Carnival and Rah Rah can turn into close to a 4 month event in Haiti. It also turns into a reason to close the schools, a few days here and a few days there, which I find very frustrating because this is something Haiti is lacking in. When they do have school they only go a half day, the younger kids in the morning and the older in the afternoon. This helps in some ways, they can have a smaller building and room for more kids but with the fewer hours and the many days they are closed Haitian children are way behind in their education.

Much was done in the few days the group from Ohio was here. They helped with the construction of the hangar and finished the taxiway in Gonaives. They all arrived home safe and we had an uneventful trip over the mountain road to the airport and back. Praise God!!

Jeff ended up taking another pregnant woman to the hospital a couple weeks ago. Her husband is a preacher of a congregation way up in the mountain. The Haitian mountain women are strong women, it's hard enough walking up and down the mountains like they do usually with quite a load on top of their heads but I can't imagine how it would be walking down the mountain while in labor. And then when they get to the bottom they either have to keep walking to get to a hospital or sit and wait for a ride which sometimes can be a long wait. And then the next day after they give birth they walk back up the mountain with a new baby. I think these women can relate a little more to what Mary went through when she gave birth to Jesus than the rest of us can.

On a sadder note: The week before that a lady from up in the mountain went to the hospital with complications in her pregnancy, three days later she and her baby died while in the hospital. Last Sunday another preacher and his wife had to bury their month old baby way way

up in the mountains. Haiti is one mountain after another. Whenever you talk to Haitians it's either "up the mountain" or "way up the mountain" or "way, way up the mountain." It's like the mountains never end. It's a rough life here and the people don't take anything for granted. They praise the Lord for what they do have.

Construction is well underway on the houses for Re'el and John Kelly's families. All of the outhouses are done, for this trip anyway. We would like to build more next year. We had very heavy rains one night last week and the next morning Bernadette came to visit me and let me know that her house was dry. Praise God!!

Jeff will start teaching aviation at a college in Gonaives on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for the remainder of our stay. We went to visit Emmanuel yesterday in St Marc and found the school is operating very well. Thanks to many of you who helped with uniforms, books and teachers salaries. If any would like to help with the salaries on a monthly basis, please send to our address below and write in memo "Emmanuel's school." We have enough funds to finish out this school year but need to either raise more this summer through one time gifts or get more commitments on a monthly basis.

As I finish this newsletter I am sitting here watching Kensey color. He is the 12 year old brother of John Kelly who we told you about in our last newsletter. He had a seizure yesterday at school. We were gone in St Marc so didn't hear about it until last night after he was in bed. This morning at 4 AM he had another one. His brother brought him over to our house (their mother passed away when Kensey was born) and we were able to get a phone call through to a doctor in our home congregation for advice. He seems to be doing fine now. He loves to color and has diligently been coloring a picture of a rainbow and Noah's ark paying attention to every little detail. His dad went to find some medicine for him (they use a lot of natural medicines). We are waiting to see what his dad finds and see if he wants us to take him in to Gonaives to see a doctor there. In the meantime we will monitor him and say lots of prayers. Please join us in this.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray continually;" One of the shortest verses in the Bible, short in words but not short in power.

Thank you again for your prayers and support.

Living more simple so others can simply live.

Sincerely yours,

Jeff & Carol Badgero