



NEWSLETTER

LUTHERAN MISSION ASSOCIATION – MnN
Volume 11 Issue 1 Winter 2011

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH CAP HAITIAN, HAITI

Pastor Valery Marulius, who was installed as pastor of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Cap Haitian several months ago, sent the following information:

First, he sends greetings to all the LMA members and thanks you all for your help and support. He knows the ministry of Gloria Dei is not theirs or ours, but it belongs to the Lord of the Universe, and we are all just servants of the master, our Lord, who provides all the resources needed.

There are 50 students at the school and 12 people working: teachers, an administrator, helpers and cooks. Noon lunches, consisting of beans and rice, are provided by Trinity Hope.



There are also about 40 members of the church.

It is very hard that every year money is spent to rent a building when the church owns property but has no funds to build. A foundation was built on that property, but it is



being compromised by the salt air from the ocean. In the rented building, water gets inside when it is raining, so we want to build the new building with a higher floor level so it will be dry.

Teaching Staff



The Rented Bldg



Part of the student's studies is learning from the Bible (the older ones were given Bibles of their own). They also use the Catechism in their study. Included are some pictures of students, school and staff.

(Note: LMA recently applied for a grant for a church/school building for Gloria Dei, but the application was turned down.)

LETTER OF THANKS FROM A DISTRICT PRESIDENT OF EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HAITI

(Received January, 2011)

Greet you in the name of the Lord!

Once again, on the behalf of all the saints of the Lutheran Churches of the North district, on the behalf of my family and on my own name, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I want also to address my thankfulness to all the beloved ones of LMA for their great support to North District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti. It has been many years since you have chosen to support our ministry here at Cap-Haitian, in spite of all the difficulties you never stop doing your best to help, you tell others about the work here and now, by the Grace of God, we have this organization that bears the name of Lutheran Mission Association where more and more people are getting involved in the work here. We are thankful to you and express our happiness to all the LMA members for the great job they are doing here May the Lord Jesus our Savior continue to bless you in regards to the Bibles needed as we have extended it to 5th grade; we are in need of 50 more. Thank you very much. Rev. Eliona Bernard, District President of the North District of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti

THE CLINIC



Lutheran Mission Association has again been in close contact with our Haitian family in the North District. The current plague of cholera is hitting hard and we again are in need of help for them. The Haitian people are greatly afraid; the illness is tragically deadly and will last for some time to come. The Lutheran Medical Clinic is depleted of medication and supplies. The deep well at the complex is servicing the Madeline area with clean water. We are doing what we can to get additional supplies through the Cap Haitian Health Network in Haiti and HERO out of Fargo, and other LCMS organizations which have helped in the past. We were able, along with a group working with Jay Brinkmeyer, to get some funds sent this past week, but not nearly enough to manage the course of this disease crisis. They are struggling. A massive education process is underway by Dr. Jasmin, the Health Minister, and the Health Department in the North District of Haiti. The emergency services reports coming out from the area are not good and if we look at other districts, we find they are in dire straits, too. I have prepared a PDF list of supply items needed as a resource that is available on our website: <http://lmamn.org> **Deb Larson**

ANOTHER LETTER FROM PASTOR BERNARD

(Received 1/12/11)

I was without success trying to send you this since this morning but because of the internet was not good, it was not possible for me to do so. Let me tell you that I am sending you this from Jacmel where I am since this past Sunday evening to teach a class for this week. When you called me last time I was there. The main goal of my memo is to express my gratitude to you and to all the LMA members who have made great and lovely efforts to assist us in a special way right after the CATASTROPHIC EARTHQUAKE OF JANUARY

12, 2010. It is a horrible anniversary for every Haitian family, Directly or indirectly every Haitian family has been hurt and we are still paying the consequences of that tragedy. Until now, many Haitian families are homeless, starving. Many of them live in such conditions that a human being is not supposed to live. The situation is crucial but it could be worse without the support which we got from overseas, from different entities of the United States, and you, too, were not unaware of our suffering.

Let me, once again thank you all for your great love. I still remember it, right after the quake, even though it was not possible to reach us through the phone, but you kept calling until finally you got me to inquire how everyone was doing. Thank you for the money which LMA has sent to purchase rice and beans to assist in one way or another those refugees who came to Cap Haitian without having a family member or a friend. **Rev. Eliona Bernard**

THE CONTAINER

The semi trailer that LMA is using for gathering and storing things to be sent in a container continues to be filled. It is more than half-full now, with many shoes, clothes, clinic supplies and equipment, a communion table, two water carts, garden tools, family, hygiene and newborn kits (thousands of diapers, thanks to all who sewed them!) desks, tables, chairs, podiums, school supplies and many other things. Still needed are these things:

Steel posts 6' or longer	Spare tires-14" or 15"
Sledge hammers	Welded Wire
Eave troughs/downspouts	Padlocks
Small Generators	Barrels – steel – 55 gal
Black Plastic Pipe – 1"	Spigots for 1" plsc pipe
Handwashing Sinks (free standing)	Bungy Straps
Faucets & drains for sinks	Garden Seeds (not Hybrid)
Fiberglass tank-100Gal	Wheelbarrows
Hand tools	Water Hoses
Kids' chewable vitamins	Chicken wire, 2-3' high
Spades, picks, grub hoes	Bars of Soap
Detergent	Plastic water hoses
Metal Roofing, 8-10' long (call Lil about this)	Spray nozzles for hose
Food, esp. beans, peanut butter, pasta, tuna, pwd milk	Rope
	O.T.C. meds.
	Kid's Shoes
	- Lil Spilde

PRIORITIES OF ELCH NORTH DISTRICT

Greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus our Savior!

I am writing this on behalf of our churches at Dondon and St. Raphael and would appreciate that LMA thinks about them and puts them on its priority lists for this year. It has to do with the purchasing of two motorcycles and the finishing of those two churches.

It is good that we try to afford a motorcycle for both Lucson and Luc to make their ministry easier for them as they have to visit other places to spread the Word and will use them also to come to Cap Haitian to attend seminary classes. A total of \$5000 US can help with the purchasing of these two motorcycles.

It would be good also to finish the Church building and school at St. Raphael that will keep the building stronger if plastered; the concrete blocs used in the construction were not well made to resist heavy rain. To pave the floor could be a possibility as well. According to estimation of a worker there, we would need \$6,550 US to reach this goal.

And finally, for the rest of the roof of the church building and school at Dondon,

including doors and windows for a total of \$7,444 US. For this amount, it is a reminded because I've shared it with you in a report. As you know, the people of Dondon are using the building even if it is

not finished yet, and with the unfinished floor it is a real problem when it is raining. I had those items in my bag I sent you from Jacmel, as I recently had a meeting with both Luc and Lucson at the same



time, and I take the opportunity to share them with you.

God's blessings on your day,
Rev. Eliona Bernard

THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROJECT

Work has finally begun on the chicken/egg farm part of the Self-Sufficiency Project in the North District. Thanks to a grant from LCMS for \$50,000, buildings are being built on the four-and-a-half acre piece of land purchased for the North District by LMA several years ago.

It is hoped to have more than 500 layers plus chickens to sell for meat. A well has been dug for water to be used for construction, but another well will be drilled for safe drinking water. The second well will also provide water for the garden, which is the next piece of the project. A building will also be constructed for the caretaker, and another for washing eggs and possible for an incubator.

The wall around the property only has the basic foundation in, and that must be finished before the operation of the chicken/egg farm can begin. Security is a big issue in Haiti, and we want to be sure the operation is closely guarded so it can be sustaining. Here are some pictures of the construction:



A PASTOR'S RENT DUE

(Received Saturday, January 15, 2011)

My friends in Christ
Greetings to you in the name of the Lord!

I am writing you this to share with you my concern in regard to pastor Gergens' situation. He actually faces a very difficult situation as his rent was due on November, but he had an agreement with the owner of the house to pay him just two months so that he could start doing something in his small property that he had purchased from his own effort. But, unfortunately, he started but he is not able to do anything more than the foundation. Now the rent is due on January 16.

I am, as district president, sharing this with you to see what together we can do to help him. As a pastor working for the ELCH we should provide him a place to live with his family, but we know the financial situation of the Church here. LMA is an organization helping the Northern district who used to help by paying rent for him and other pastors in the district, but also because of financial problems, they stop it except they keep paying rent for Luc at Dondon and Lucson at St. Raphael. The situation is crucial, few you could do to help would be highly appreciated. As the district president I had to do something on his behalf but unfortunately, I have my hands empty. Please, my friends, join your efforts with me and let's do something on behalf of our brother so that he could even partially solve this problem which also is our problem.

I count on you and may the Lord Jesus continue to bless you.

Rev. Eliona Bernard
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From: gergense@hotmail.com
To: elionabernard@hotmail.com
Subject: Construction
Date: Thu, 13 Jan 2011 14:58:47 -0500

Pasteur,
Je vous remercie pour tous vos supports financiers et moraux que vous donnez a moi et a toute la famille pour faire face a ce gros problem de logement que nous connaissons depuis belles lurettes, je vous envoie ces photos juste pour avoir une idee des travaux de construction entrepris

depuis decembre pour construire deux chambris de maisons pouvant loger ma famille.

Malheureusement, je ne peux rien faire de plus après avoir dispense plus de \$2,000.00 US que j'avais a ma disposition. Or, le 16 Janvier, soit semaine prochaine, je dois passer les clefs de mon habitat (maison locative) a son proprietaire. De'apres toutes les previsions necessaires, pour preparer deux chambres de maison, ceus qui restent a faire depasseront largement les depenses deja effectuées. Quoi faire? Dieu seul sait! Cependant, je compte sur vos prieres. Que Dieu vous benisse!

Pasteur Gergens Edouard
Of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Of Grande Riviere du Nord

ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY ALLISON MARTIN,
EAU CLAIRE, WI:

Pastor,
I thank you for all of your financial and moral support that you give me and the entire family for facing this big lodging problem that we have known for ages. I'm sending you these photos just so you have an idea of the construction work going on since December to build 2 rooms to house my family. Unfortunately, I can't do more after having spent \$2,000.0 US that I had at my disposal. Now, the 16th of January, this next week, I must pass the keys of my rental house to their owner. After all the necessary work to prepare a two room house, all that's left to do will be to overcome the considerable expenditures already made. What to do? God only knows. In the meantime, I count on your prayers. May God bless you!

Pastor Gergens Edouard

(LMA sent \$1200 for Pastor Gergens' rent, thanks to many "spontaneous" donors.)

THE WEBSITE

LMA-MnN's website can be accessed by going to: <http://lmamn.org/> Rev. Nathan Higgins, an LMA member from Long Prairie, is our webmaster. He can be contacted at fr_nhiggins@yahoo.com

ADOPT A CHURCH

Each month LMA sends support to each of the churches in Haiti's North District. Below (in bold) are the amounts we send, money received from various churches and individuals for the purpose of helping these churches. The salaries of the pastors range from about \$75 to \$150 per month. There are also other expenses: musical instruments, diesel generator fuel, Holy Communion supplies, Sunday School supplies, not to mention the costs of construction and repair of buildings.

**\$30 – Premier Ev Lutheran Church, Cap Haitian
Rev. Eliona Bernard, Pastor**

**\$65.84 – Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,
Cap Haitian
Rev. Valery Marulius, Pastor**

**\$150 – Evangelical Lutheran church, Dondon
Vicar Luc Belizaire, leader**

**\$25 - Faith Lutheran Church, Grande Riviere
Du Nord, Rev. Gergens Edouard, Pastor**

**\$75 – Grace Lutheran Church, St. Raphael
Vicar Lucson Joseph, leader**

\$1500 for school support

\$100 for Bibles for 5th & 6th graders

Each congregation has between 40 and 150 people attending each Sunday, and each has a Sunday School class before the service.

If your group, or you, as an individual, are willing to help support a church, please fill in the form below and mail it to us. We will keep you posted through the newsletters of things going on in those congregations. Remember, we are a 501c3 Non-Profit entity, so your donation is tax deductible.

Any amount you can give will be a real blessing because it will be combined with donations from others and become a constant support for the fledgling congregations in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti's North District.

Please tear off the form below and send it with your donation to LMA's Financial Secretary:

Mrs. Karen Lueth
33879 Co 4
Park Rapids, MN 56470



LUTHERAN MISSION ASSOCIATION

ADOPT-A-CHURCH/PASTOR PROGRAM

Name _____ Congregation
 Group
Address _____ Individual

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Intended duration of support _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Financial Support \$ _____ (Check one) per month per quarter per year

I/We will support the Church/Pastor of _____

Supporter's Signature _____ Date _____

Make checks payable to Lutheran Mission Association AAC Program, and send to Karen Lueth, Financial , Secretary, 33879 Co. 4, Park Rapids, MN 56470

What LMA does . . .

Lutheran Mission Association promotes mission activities among the congregations of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in northern Minnesota and other locations in the USA. LMA promotes and maintains relationships in a substantive and “hands-on” way for support in the work of bringing the Gospel to the World. The work is done between LCMS members and Lutheran churches around the world which are in altar and pulpit fellowship with LCMS. Our current project is to help with the churches and schools of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti in the North District of Haiti.

Organization Status . . .

LMA is a 501c3 non-profit organization. There is virtually no overhead and all proceeds go directly to the mission in Haiti. We visit Haiti at least once a year, and find our brothers and sisters in the ELCH very accountable for the money sent.

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