



FriendSharing

Spring 2020 Newsletter



Work Mission 2020

This year we had to make a very difficult decision, but with team safety our top priority, we decided not to travel to Trouin due to civil unrest in Port-Au-Prince. However, knowing how much the workers depend on the income and the need for housing repairs, we worked hard to make the mission happen without our Mission Team physically present. We hired our three interpreters as our liaisons and supervisors, and sent the funds for supplies and wages through Father. Father chose the houses to be repaired (as usual), and our Haitian workers worked together and made the repairs. We required and received before and after photos of the completed projects.

Linda Clewell and Mary Knepp reported that the team interviewed 81 of our 85 students! We are so happy to keep the sponsors updated with photos and current information.

In summary, three work teams repaired eight houses; cement work continued at St. Therese's Chapel, and cement patching repairs were done at St. Anne's school! IMPRESSIVE!

We pray that we can return to Trouin in 2021.



House Repair



House Repair



Marco - Christophe - Dominic



Chapel Repairs

Prayer request for the political situation in Haiti. It is a fluid and volatile situation. This is my best understanding, but I'm sure there are many versions of these events floating around. There were supposed to be elections this past October, but were not organized. Thus, several of the representatives' terms expired and no replacements were elected. As such, the President now has executive power to do as he pleases. As of last week, there is a new Prime Minister, (not sure how that happened) but the President remains in power. This has complicated the situation. The US State Department has now risen the level of danger to a maximum 4 out of 4 meaning no travel of any kind to Haiti is advised. The Haitian police do not have the resources they need to do their job. The students of the National University which is located next to the President's Palace, are now voicing their dissatisfaction and adding to the intensity in Port-Au-Prince.

Also, Haiti is also dealing with the Coronavirus. With extremely limited medical facilities and supplies they will be hit hard. *Luann Polissaint, President*





Friends of the People of Haiti
 1739 - 11th Avenue
 Moline, IL 61265

**Please send donations and Sponsor a Child funds to:
 FOPH C/O Jack Knepp - 110 19th Street #205,
 Rock Island, IL 61201**

FOPH is looking for Sustaining Pledges to help with financial budgeting. A letter will be emailed and sent via USPS in the near future with more information and details. Please consider what you can give on a regular basis.

Request for Computers

Our high school students at St. Anne's are in need of some computers. (refurbished are fine).. There is a section of the state exam regarding computer knowledge, and each of our students must fail because of lack of computer classes. If anyone knows of a supply of computers - perhaps a company or school is upgrading and would like to repurpose / recycle for a very good cause, please contact Luann Polissaint - luann.polissaint@gmail.com 919-345-5268

Sponsor a Child



Invest in the future of Haiti and consider Sponsoring a Child. For \$160 a year you can help to send a child to school. Every penny of your money goes to educating the child(ren) you sponsor. There are several students on the wait-list. Contact Mary Knepp at mknepp21@gmail.com



2020 Board Members:

President Luann Polissaint, 1st Vice-President Shelly Ditzman, 2nd Vice-President Marlene Shattuck, Secretary - Linda Clewell, Treasurer Jack Knepp

Thank you to all who have generously served on the FOPH Board over the past 30 years.

Please send us your email address

It would greatly reduce time and resources if we could deliver newsletters to your email inbox in living color!
 Send email address to: jdedmunds2@aol.com

Next meeting is will be determined at a later date

CANS FOR CANS

Jean Edmunds is still collecting non-crushed aluminum cans. The money raised from recycling these cans is used for building latrines in Haiti. Please drop off at her home at 1739—11th Ave Moline or call (563) 349-1650