

Seeds of Support Missions

A Ministry of St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, MN and United Lutheran Church, Langdon, ND

SOWING SEEDS. BUILDING COMMUNITY.

An Update from the Seeds of Support Board

Hello everyone, and God's blessings to you all.

Even amidst the disruptions of the last few months, Seeds of Support has continued to move forward on some significant projects and initiatives with Redemption Lutheran Church of Jacmel and the community of Pasquette. Since our options to connect in-person with you are limited these days, we wanted to update you on some of our key focus areas right now.

Water Tower Updates

After almost a year, the new water tower is finally complete. We have been blessed to develop a friendship with an American missionary based in Jacmel who has been instrumental in helping move the project forward. The new tower is made of concrete ([see video](#)) to better withstand the elements, and includes a 1,600 gallon tank and new solar panels. Water will be delivered via pipes to new construction houses in "downtown" Pasquette via a subscription, and available for everyone to walk up and fill buckets/wash hands at the spigot for free ([see video](#)). We also plan to install solar-powered street lights around the well and in front of the church for additional safety and security. Julian, the chair of the Water Committee, expresses his thanks for the tower ([see video](#)).



The old water tower (top left) and the new concrete water tower (top right) with solar panels and a 1,600 gallon tank. The spigot (bottom left) and solar panels (bottom right) are new features of the updated tower.

Health and Wellness Clinic

With cases of Covid-19 starting to increase throughout Haiti, Seeds of Support is working closely with Jorel and Pastor Holand. In June, we had planned a health clinic focused primarily on educating the village on staying healthy and slowing the virus' spread.

Unfortunately, shortly before the clinic was to run, a few cases of Covid-19 appeared in Jacmel from people who had traveled to Port-au-Prince. Even though there are currently no cases in Pasquette, the church council decided to follow public health recommendations against large gatherings. Instead, soap and face masks will be distributed to the village, and resources will be shared promoting the importance of social distancing and handwashing.



*Above:
A scene from a prior health clinic. We continue to explore ways we can support our friends through the current health crisis.*



Staying Connected to our Friends via Video Technology

Between the political unrest in Haiti lasting through much of 2019 and now Covid-19, we have not been able to go on-the-ground for more than a year, and we don't know when it will be safe to travel again.

The Seeds of Support board is exploring ways to stay in touch with our friends in Pasquette and continue developing the relationships we have fostered over the last eight years. We've already used Zoom technology to work through some basic repairs on the bakery generator, and we are brainstorming ways we could leverage technology such as wi-fi hotspots for initiatives such as a virtual health clinic, educational support, and more!

[Click here](#) to view a recent video message from Pastor Holand.

Haiti Personnel Updates

We're sure you're wondering - how are Jorel, Kerlange, and Joseph? Despite the challenges both of the pandemic and the general unrest in Haiti over the last year, they continue to press forward. Jorel has been able to travel more frequently to Pasquette in recent months, providing invaluable support to our mission, infrastructure and relationship development. Kerlange and her husband Armstrong are busy caring for baby Zeke, who is now nearly a year old! Joseph is diving into a new business venture selling refurbished cell phones. We continue to explore ways that we can support each of our support staff through the current times, and we will keep you updated on them in future newsletters.

Expanding Role for Seeds of Support Missions

Seeds of Support Missions underwent a visioning process this winter asking how we might live out an expanded strategic mission to provide transformational experiences for families and people of all ages. In addition to Haiti, how do we live out the values of accompaniment in our own community, the nation and the world? How might we use these principles and our experiences in Haiti in other places? Are there other partnerships that we can build? We will be patient and prayerful as this vision develops. Stay tuned for future updates!



We miss our friends in Pasquette and can't wait until we can see them in-person again!

That's all for now! Please keep the people of Pasquette, as well as Jorel, Karelange, and Joseph, in your prayers amidst the unrest in our world, that God will be with them and keep them safe in the days and months ahead.

Blessings,

Pastor Peter, Linnae Stole and the Seeds of Support Board