

# SEEDS OF SUPPORT MISSIONS

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

**SOWING SEEDS. BUILDING COMMUNITY.**

## FALL 2022: A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR SEEDS

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

Over the last several months, the Seeds of Support board has been digging deep into the question of where we go next. As the pandemic wanes and people start traveling again, we believe it is imperative that international mission work remains a core offering of St. Andrew's service ministry. However, the situation in Haiti has furthered deteriorated, with severe inflation, gang violence, looting and political instability making life difficult and dangerous for those who live there. While we will remain deeply committed to bringing hope to Haiti and our partners there, it will likely be years before we can safely return mission groups to the country.

And so, after much prayer, listening to God and each other, we are pleased to share a new international mission trip experience from August 5-12, 2023, to **Belize!** This opportunity comes about through a partnership with **Service Learning Camps**, which is the same organization that took our middle school students to Duluth last summer. They partner with local organizations to help mission trip groups focus on projects they find most worthwhile.

Like Seeds of Support, Service Learning Camps places a high level of importance on relationship building, fostering sustainable local partnerships, and the long-term enhancement of local ministries (e.g. congregations, programming, pastoral support). Examples of projects include construction, wellness clinics, education, children's ministry, coffee growing, and community development. We will also have the chance to partake in tourist activities such as snorkeling on the famous barrier reef and seeing Mayan ruins!



***Easily accessible from the United States, Belize offers abundant opportunities for both service projects and tourist activities***

We are very excited about this new path God is leading us down, and we invite you to join us! **On Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. (between the 9:00 and 10:30 services),** Pastor Peter and Seeds of Support board members will host a presentation/discussion about Belize trip plans. Come and learn more about this exciting opportunity and discover how you can be a part of it!

UPDATES ON OUR PARTNERS

We hear from Kerlange, Jorel and Joseph, and they are managing despite the current environment in Haiti. We continually look for ways to partner with them in mission outreach to be our hands and feet of Christ on the ground.

- Kerlange:** Kerlange and Armstrong welcomed a daughter, Hannah Annika Norisca, earlier this summer. They are managing, but they are struggling with the same issues all Haitians are dealing with right now—inflation, food and gas shortages, and school closures. Their son, Zeke, is at the age to start school, but schools have not opened yet this fall due to the unrest in the country. Kerlange continues to pursue



***Kerlange, Armstrong and their children, Hannah and Zeke***

mission opportunities on our behalf, especially at area hospitals to deliver necessary supplies to patients. The roof of her new house is finished, and the family will hopefully be moving soon, giving them extra security and a place to call their own! In all of the challenges, Kerlange remains faithful and praises God for things like her phone so she can communicate with us and others.

- Jorel:** After some health concerns this summer, Jorel’s family is doing well. His son, John, who had hoped to come to study in the United States, is now in Turkey! He shares that he is working on getting his student residency card and is currently in his fourth session of Turkish language classes.

- Joseph:** Like all Haitians, Joseph has faced challenges with the rising food prices and day-to-day cost of living expenses. Since his living arrangements did not have a kitchen or stove, he had typically been purchasing most of his meals from street vendors. Of course,

that has gotten significantly more expensive as inflation presses on. Seeds of Support recently helped subsidize the cost of a small propane stove for him so he could cook at home and reduce his food expenditures. He is also pursuing work in the Dominican Republic, but opportunities have become more limited for Haitians to stay in the country due to the current environment. Joseph also maintains his love for God and our partnership.



***Zeke loves his baby sister!***

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR OUR FRIENDS

As always, keep the people of Haiti in your prayers. With rapid inflation, food shortages, and gang violence, daily life is a struggle. Pray for Jorel, Kerlange, Joseph, and their families, as well as the community of Pasquette. Pray that God’s hand will guide them, as well as us at St. Andrew as we discern how to continue supporting these people who have become so much a part of us.

Blessings,  
 Pastor Peter, Linnae Stole, and the Seeds of Support Board

CONTACT US!

For questions about the contents of this newsletter or Seeds of Support’s work in general, contact Pastor Peter ([pastorpeter@standrewlu.org](mailto:pastorpeter@standrewlu.org)) or Linnae Stole ([lbstole@gmail.com](mailto:lbstole@gmail.com)).