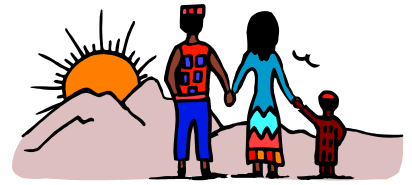


ZANMI Friends ANSANM Together



SPRING 2009



The Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee's Haiti Project Newsletter

A LETTER FROM BISHOP MILLER : Annual Appeal

Dear Friends in Christ,

Last year many in the diocese responded generously to my appeal for help for our brothers and sisters in Jeannette, Haiti. You may recall I had just returned from Haiti where Canon Pfaff and I experienced first-hand the critical food shortage. This was subsequently worsened by back-to-back devastating hurricanes this past fall. Your response to my plea was heartening and enabled us not only to help the students and teachers through that difficult time, but also plan and provide for future need.

Many of you are aware of worldwide food crises resulting from worsening economies, drought, or crop failures. St. Marc's school administrator reports that the simple school food program is successful as reflected by improvements in attendance and test scores.

Historically, the Haiti Project's budget has been met through the partnership program, small grants, and individual and parish donations and fundraisers. This support, which amounts to much less than the annual budget of most parishes, supports a staff of 48 Haitians at St Marc's Church, School and Clinic. This project supports the Millennium Development Goals by ministering to 600+ families. At this time, it is the recommendation of the Haiti Project Steering Committee that the Diocese of Milwaukee conduct an annual appeal to ensure we are able to continue and build upon the success of our mission in Jeannette.

To that end, as your Bishop I am asking that you and your parish prayerfully consider making a donation to the Haiti Project during the annual appeal in May. If there are other ways you would like to help, either individually or as a parish outreach effort, or to learn more about the project, please visit the website at www.haitiproject.org or look for the link on the Diocesan web site www.diomilw.org.

On behalf of the students, teachers, clergy, and parishioners of St Marcs, I thank you and wish you Blessings,

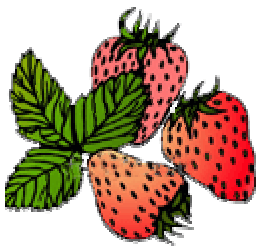
The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller

Save the Dates:

**St. James' / West Bend
Annual Tea Benefit :**

Saturday, May 9th

**Reserve tickets; call
Nina : 262. 334. 4242**



**St. Mary's / Dousman
Strawberry Fest 2009:**

Sunday, June 28th

Noon - 4:30

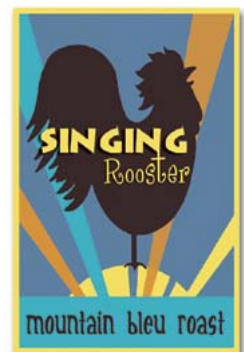
Food, Fun, Crafts!

**Shortcake, whipped
cream, enough said.**

Singing Rooster Coffee Update:

Because of last fall's 4 successive hurricanes, we've been working overtime on 2009's **Haitian coffee shipment** - it's been challenging! We anticipate having it ready to ship soon - hopefully by late May.

Coffee Clubbers: We'll deliver your April Coffee with the next shipment.



Coming soon !

DIOCESE OF EAU CLAIRE HAITI PARTNERSHIP

By Dianne Dawson & John Meacham

The Diocese of Eau Claire continues to work cooperatively with the Diocese of Milwaukee, sending their funds through the Diocese of Milwaukee and sharing the newsletter. The Eau Claire group continues to place high priority on the Sponsorship Program as well as other fundraisers. Advent boxes to benefit the student lunch program raised over \$1300 for the emergency food program. One member has also gathered fifty sewing kits for the trade school. In 2009 they hope to raise the number of sponsors from 50 to 100, a huge goal for a small diocese. They also plan to have a WEB site up and running soon. Father Amiold Lazard traveled to Eau Claire for a visit in October and returned home with three Dell laptops, expanding the computer class to five. Merci beaucoup Eau Claire!



MICROSCOPES & LAPTOPS



Trip Report & 20-year Anniversaries

Hurricanes and storms delayed trips until November but school supplies were at last delivered, library books shelved and new animal books given to each classroom (See French Students Collect Books). A new teacher, Edson, was holding computer classes with new laptops donated by the Diocese of Eau Claire. Dr. Mel Stewart held a seminar demonstrating the use of microscopes with the help of a student, Manu. After the seminar, teachers, students and guests gathered for a surprise party to honor Eloi as the faithful administrator at St. Marc's and Enel, a teacher, both of whom have been at St. Marc's for 20 years (see photo). They were presented with plaques followed by singing, dancing and a spectacular meal of rice & beans, plantain, chicken, salad, and an enormous cake. Mary Alice Eschweiler reports she had never seen such a huge amount of rice and beans and Christophe Nicaise contributed a bottle of champagne.



Before traveling to Jeannette, Christophe and Melanie attended the Haiti Connection Meeting in Port-au-Prince where Christophe introduced the Singing Rooster Coffee project.

Some second generation trippers, including Leader Hannah Brown and Drew Eschweiler along with Michael Kenyon & Cari Gillgan, seminarians Bill Breedlove & Andy Hanyzewski and UW Milwaukee education student Shannon Ferguson traveled to Jeannette in January. They delivered supplies, took school pictures,

did repairs, and built shelves and desks for the school assisted by local villagers. Cari held paper bead-making classes with the sewing teacher Immaculee and her students. She left supplies for them to continue making and then selling their products. Group members had fun playing soccer as well as taking a trip to the beach before departing. They utilized a new transportation service and cell phones to facilitate the trip. Hannah reports the only snag was a holdup at U.S. Customs requiring an extra night at the Miami airport.

A February “Wellness Week” trip to Jeannette was forced to make last minute changes in their itinerary due to the transition in Jeannette. They were able to meet one of the teachers, to send supplies back with him. One of their memorable visits was to Cange, (of “Mountains Beyond Mountains” fame), the first of Dr. Paul Farmer’s clinics and hospitals in Haiti. The parish was started by Fr. Fritz Lafontant, the brother of our founder Fr. Octave Lafontant, and they were able to meet with his niece Marie who still lives and works there. The Medical Working Group hopes to bring a speaker from the Partners in Health organization to the Madison/Milwaukee areas sometime in the next year.

French Students Collect Books



Students at Milwaukee’s French Immersion School collected books for students at St. Marc’s School (see photo right).

Our thanks to Gabrielle (left) for organizing the drive. She is the daughter of Monique Tietyen-Mlengana, one of our working group members.



Jeannette Transition Change is hard but inevitable. We have said goodbye to Fr. Amirolid Lazard, the priest-in-charge at St. Marc’s Parish for the past four years. The February trip group visited with him, his wife and baby daughter. Much has been accomplished during his tenure and we expressed our thanks for his faithful service. Pere Kesner Gracia, the Archdeacon of South Haiti, is serving in the interim priest. Bon Do, which was a mission of St. Marc’s supported by St. Gregory’s, Boca Raton, has now been made a separate parish. They have repaired the truck, and it will stay with Bon Do, leaving Jeannette without transportation at the moment.

The second difficult situation this winter is a water crisis. Water in Jeannette is obtained either from cisterns that are now leaking and empty or by water trucks. Without a truck, the school was forced to close. Emergency donations have allowed trucked-in water to re-open the school, and to repair at least one cistern before the rainy season. Further community development cannot occur until a permanent solution for water is found. There is a spring below Jeannette, indicating the possibility of drilling a well. The Water Working Group is investigating.

How to Get Singing Rooster Coffee:

Very soon, your **Haiti Project Parish Coordinator** will ask: “Who wants this delicious but rare coffee?” That’s when you’ll speak up.

Coffee Clubbers: We’ll deliver your April Coffee in May.



Episcopal Diocese
of Milwaukee
Haiti Project
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Milwaukee, WI 53202



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newsletter -- only 6 times a year:
www.haitiproject.org

Special Book Offer for the Haiti Project:

Alphonsine is a charming tale of 19th century pioneers in Dakota Territory. It's a tribute to families who endured primitive travel and adjusted to the stark contrasts between sophisticated cities, like Montreal, and the American frontier.

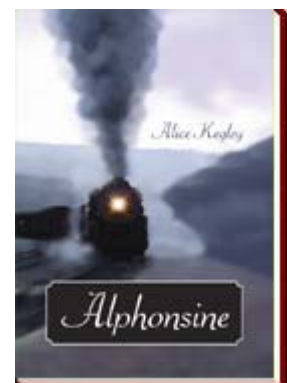
Buy the book through the Haiti Project & we earn a portion of the sale:

Go to: www.authoralicekegley.com

Click on the Order Now box and a window will say "This Page Has Been Moved." Click on the link under it and place an order.

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The Haiti Project earns \$2.60 per book. This will be on a quarterly basis.



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