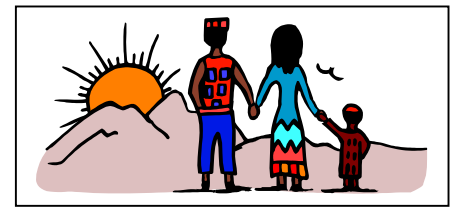


ZANMI Friends ANSANM Together



SPRING 2007



*News and Information
about the
Episcopal Diocese of
Milwaukee
HAITI PROJECT*

INSIDE:

National Meeting.....p 2

Trips to Haiti.....p 3

Reception.....p 3

New Sponsors.....p 4

Treasurer's Message p 4

Donation Form.....p 5

Notecards.....p 5

Endowment Fund....p 6

Statewide Board
Meeting.....p 6

HP Remains Entity of
Diocese.....p 6

Milwaukee Haiti
Connections.....p 7

Fundraisers.....p 7

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing”. John 15:5

PARISH VISITS

Since the January newsletter, eight parishes or church groups have hosted the coordinator or other representative to learn more about the Haiti Project. On a snowy January Sunday, Coordinator Jan Byrd visited with St. Peter's, Northlake, where a complete Haitian experience with pictures, artwork, and a Haitian lunch following the Eucharist was provided by Rev. David Couper and his wife Sabine and her mother. Parishioners there indicated interest in going on a future trip to Haiti. St. Dunstan's, Madison, welcomed the coordinator for a presentation during the education hour where she renewed acquaintance with old friends as well as meeting the Christian Formation Director, Darby Puglielli. At St. Luke's, Racine, Dr. Byrd delivered the homily and a brief history of the Haiti Project before enjoying a Carribean Cuisine lunch in the appropriately decorated parish hall and going home with a fresh pineapple as well as some new sponsorships.

During Lent Dr. Byrd was hosted at the Church of the Holy Communion in Lake Geneva where parishioners expressed lively interest in the project and several became new sponsors or otherwise contributed to the project. Elizabeth Bardwell and Jane Henning from The Rectors Guild of Grace Church, Madison, arranged a luncheon presentation for the group at the home of Carol Schmid. The women were very interested in learning more about St. Marc's School and supporting teachers and students there. Just prior to the Haiti Connection meeting, Jan prepared a Haitian-style lunch and craft show for her own parish, St. Mark's, Beaver Dam. This was followed by a presentation to the youth group, The Frogs, while they put together hygiene kits for transport to Jeannette.

Haiti Project co-chair, Ann Brophy, went with Fr. Amiroid Lazard to meet with the youth group of Progressive Baptist Church in Milwaukee where he was greeted with song and dance. This group under the leadership of Betty Womack has supported the Haiti Project by making infant kits. On Fr. Lazard's only Sunday in Wisconsin, he and the coordinator participated in both services and the education hour with the Rev. Anita Braden at St. Francis, Menomonee Falls. Outreach Chair, Terry Loribiecki had already organized a collection for the Haiti Project called a drop in the bucket for Haiti where parishioners put loose change in collection buckets. If you would like someone visit your parish, please contact the coordinator or a Haiti Project board member.

Patricia Frost with Carribean Cuisine at St. Luke's, Racine





National Episcopal Haiti Meeting



Jan, Fr Kesner, Fr Lazard, & Christophe

NATIONAL EPISCOPAL HAITI CONNECTION

Coordinator Jan Byrd and Treasurer Christophe Nicaise attended the NEC meeting in Miami, Florida April 23-25 along with Fr. Amiold Lazard, priest-in-charge at St. Marc's, Jeannette, Haiti. We were welcomed by the bishop of Haiti, the Rt. Rev. Jean Zache Duracin, and the bishop of Southeast Florida, the Rt. Rev. Leopold Frade, who emphasized the plight of the Haitian refugees and urged us to contact our governmental representatives to seek fair treatment for them. His congregations are ready to receive and help the refugees.

Presentations by healthcare organizations highlighted the unmet nutritional needs of Haiti's children, especially those under three years old. The moderator Dr. Gretchen Berggren has worked in Haiti for many years and started a nutritional program at Ste. Croix Hospital which teaches mothers how to feed their children with locally-available foods rather than vitamin supplementation. She emphasized the need for feeding the children five times per day (including snacks) in order to get adequate calories and optimal physical and mental development. Many families in Haiti eat only one meal per day. Hunger, we learned, is the main reason children do poorly at school and fail national exams. These are issues our board is currently dealing with at St. Marc's School.

Unfortunately, we heard that Ste. Croix Hospital, the referral hospital which is so important for Jeannette, is in dire financial straits. A special collection was taken but more long-term help is obviously needed to keep it open. Our surgical team was unable to go to Ste. Croix this year as the operating rooms are nonfunctional. Outpatient programs are continuing at this time, however.

We met with the new Partnership Program Coordinator, Fr. Kesner Ajax, who is also the administrator of the new two-year business and technical school, Bishop Sharp Institute. We have one student from Jeannette at the school in Les Cayes and funds for a second student to begin. The goal is to equip young Haitians to start small business's to revive Haiti's economy. We hope a student will return to help with business aspects of the coffee project. The school welcomes visiting professors in business or technical areas especially.

There are 254 Anglican primary and secondary schools in Haiti and Bishop Duracin has formed a new network of the schools to share expertise and resources to improve the quality of education. He and retired bishop, Roger White, have met with the Prime Minister about replicating some of the Episcopal institutions in Haiti. The seminary at Haiti Episcopal University has its first two female seminarians and the seminary is also anxious to have visiting professors. Contact the coordinator, Jan Byrd, if you are interested.

A big attraction for us in the exhibit area was the Fonkoze microloan program which has opened an office in Miragoane, near Jeannette. We hope people in our community may be able to use this vehicle to become economically independent. The meeting concluded with a moving Eucharist in French and English.

After the meeting, Father Lazard traveled to Wisconsin with Jan and Christophe for a whirlwind visit before returning to Haiti. (See PARISH VISITS, page 1 and RECEPTION page 3).

TRIPS TO HAITI

An early March trip by board members Denis Higgs, Mark and Nancy Frana and their daughter and son-in-law accomplished many goals. Nancy, who is an RN reported that the pharmacy was well-stocked since recent contributions have allowed us to budget a monthly amount for basic medicines. The new government doctor appeared to be well organized and was keeping good records. She had logged over 300 malaria cases thus identifying a problem that may need more attention. An old house is being renovated as a laboratory.

The school children appeared to be in good health and are receiving vitamins three times per week. Dr. Paul Scholl sent dental supplies with the group and a Haitian dentist was hired for a very reasonable fee to check all the school children and take care of their dental problems and those of the community. Denis and Mark rigged an adaptation to a rocking chair to serve as a dental chair. Although modern dental equipment had been offered to the project, lack of space and appropriate utilities prevented our accepting this offer.

Denis met with a Haitian engineer regarding Denis' design for a trade school building. The engineer made a cardboard mockup which he sent back with Fr. Lazard on his recent visit. The estimated cost is \$60,000-70,000 and the initial grant and donations were \$33,000 so a fundraising campaign will be necessary to complete the building. Denis envisions trainees helping to build the school and eventually making products for sale. The building location will be close enough to the road to allow for delivery of supplies and trucking finished products. Skills taught would include carpentry, masonry, cooking and computer technology. The sewing, embroidery and flower-making classes would also move into the trade school building from their temporary location in the high school. The board views this trade school as an important way to attack the root of poverty in the area and increase independence of the community.

Mark and Denis also did repairs and added more shelves to the small library area. More books in French are needed if anyone has access to these.

In May, Fr. Scott Leannah and Mary Alice Eschweiler will lead a college-age trip to Jeannette. An experienced educator, Melanie Stewart, will also be with the group and will hold workshops for the teachers at St. Marc's. Some of the group will be doing some nutrition education for the children.

A trip is planned for the first two weeks of November and orientation sessions will be held for those who have indicated an interest. The first will be Monday, June 11 at 6:30 pm. The second (a repeat) will be held on Saturday, June 30 at 10 am. Please contact Jan Byrd if you wish to attend.

RECEPTION & ART AUCTION

On the last night of Fr. Lazard's time in Wisconsin, a reception and silent auction of original Haitian acrylics and watercolors was held in the beautiful parlor of St. Paul's Church in downtown Milwaukee. Parishioners Gerald and Elaine Mainman and Dr. Ed and Joanne Filmanowicz assisted with preparation and serving. Many parishes participated but (other than St. Paul's) St. John's Chrysostom, Delafield, won the attendance award with eight parishioners. Others attended from West Bend and Racine and the auction netted almost \$1800 for the Haiti Project. Thank you to all.

Above Cathy Simpson & son David View Art

**Left Gerry Mainman & Ed Filmanowicz
Assist with Setup and Serving**

**SPONSORSHIPS AND GIFTS
FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN
JEANNETTE**

“You shall love your neighbors as yourselves”

NEW SPONSORS

Susan and George Gootsman
Judy Cleary and Edward Jirsa
ECW St. Luke's, Racine
Dr. Barry and Mrs. Mullen
Connie and Bob Sommers

Thank you to all who gave, both listed and unlisted. Your gifts will help advance the Millenium Development Goals in Haiti.

OTHER DONATIONS

Anonymous	\$8,000.00	Haiti Project Endowment Fund
John & Betty Ashman	\$ 500.00	Haiti Project Endowment Fund
Penny Atkinson	\$ 50.00	Unrestricted
Roger Bunday	\$ 150.00	“
Church of the Holy Communion	\$ 415.11	“
Joy Fricke	\$ 250.00	Water/Education
Grace Episcopal Churchwomen	\$1000.00	“
Jane Henning	\$1500.00	High School Teacher
Miriam Hughes	\$ 100.00	Water/Healthcare/Education
Emma Hutchens	\$ 250.00	Endowment Fund, Scholarship
Marlene Kagi	\$ 200.00	On behalf of Dr. Kanyon Keeney, Water/Healthcare/Education
St. Andrew's, Madison	\$ 300.00	Unrestricted
St. Francis, Menomonee Falls	\$ 504.00	“
St. Mark's, Beaver Dam	\$ 263.00	“
St. Matthias, Waukesha,	\$1000.00	“
Haiti Change for Children		
Cherie Teague, Treasurer		
Stephen and Carol Smith	\$1500.00	Scholarship, Bishop Tharp Institute
Linda Zamzow	\$ 100.00	Unrestricted

A Message from the Treasurer

Dear Haiti Project Partners:

At the beginning of the year, I shared with you our goal to add 100 new partners in 2007 and asked for your help in this effort.

I am happy to report that 12 new partners have joined the Haiti Project during the first four months.

If you have not yet passed along a brochure, please consider giving one to a loved one, a friend or a neighbor. I'd truly appreciate your doing so this summer.

We need your help to reach our goal.

Sincerely,
Chris Nicaise, Treasurer

ZANMI ANSAM/FRIENDS TOGETHER

is a newsletter of the Episcopal diocese of Milwaukee Haiti Project which is a partnership in mission and community development with St. Marc's Parish, Jeannette, Haiti.

Diocese of Haiti Partnership Coordinator:

Fr. Kesner Ajax kesnerajax@yahoo.com

Board: Co-Chairs Ann Brophy & Mary Alice Eschweiler. **Treasurer** Christophe Nicaise.

Board Members Dr. John & Patti Brusky, Barb & Ted Chesney, Rev. David Couper, Carl Eschweiler, Mark & Nancy Frana, Denis Higgs, Molly Nicaise, Sparky Watts, Susan Webster, John Ashman (Appleton Representative), Bishop Steven Miller

Diocese of Eau Claire Partners

Coordinator Rev. George Stamm

frgccs@sbcglobal.net

715-828-4633

Partnership Coordinators John & Carol Meacham

johnm1825@yahoo.com

715-475-8340

Diocese of Milwaukee Coordinator Dr. Jan Byrd

Jan@haitiproject.org or
res1cadh@verizon.net

608-212-7971

Please share your email address with us. Advise us if you wish to be removed from the mailing list.

www.haitiproject.org

SIGN UP TODAY!

I wish to sponsor a child at St. Marc's School.

___ \$ 200 annually

___ \$ 50 quarterly

___ \$ 17.50 monthly

I would like to give a family a water purifier.

___ \$ 100

I would like to make a contribution to be used where needed for education, water, agriculture, trade school, or healthcare. \$ _____

I would like to contribute to the Trade School Building Fund. \$ _____

I would like to make a gift to the Haiti Project Endowment Fund. \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Mail to Diocese of Milwaukee Haiti Project
804 E. Juneau Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Notecards Available

10 Haitian Angels (5 red and 5 yellow) with gold foil envelopes for \$10 plus shipping, plain or with Christmas greeting. "Haiti's Hope" notecards picturing Haitian children are also still available, 12 for \$10. Contact the coordinator to order. Jan@haitiproject.org



ENDOWMENT FUNDS INSURE THE FUTURE

“Lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven”

Reaching the 20th Anniversary of the Haiti Project prompted reflection on the future with current sponsors and board members wanting to continue the legacy of education, health care and community development begun in Jeannette, Haiti.

The Haiti Project Educational Endowment Fund was established in 1997 with an initial gift by the Newman Center Community in Oshkosh. The purpose of this fund is to provide scholarships for students of St. Marc’s, Jeannette, Haiti to attend secondary school (sponsorships fund elementary education only). Additions have been made to this fund but contributions have not been actively promoted until now. A gift or bequest to this fund can insure the continued education of Haiti’s children so vital to the future of this country.

Because the original fund is restricted in its use, the Haiti Project Board has established a second Haiti Project Endowment Fund with an initial gift of \$8,000. Distributions from this fund may be used for any purpose at the discretion of the board. Growth at 5% per year is anticipated with a gift of \$4,000 thus funding a perpetual sponsorship of \$200 per year. A third endowment fund is being established by Mr. & Mrs. Jon Barsanti as a discretionary fund for the use of St. Marc’s priest-in-charge.

It is not the board’s intention to supplant contributions to the sponsorship program, but to encourage contributions to these funds in addition, so that continued growth over time will insure the future funding of the project and increase the amounts available for education in Haiti.

These funds are managed by the Trustees of Funds and Endowments, Inc. of the Diocese of Milwaukee and are tax deductible. Gifts of any size are welcome. For further information, please contact the coordinator or Jon Barsanti, Executive Director of Trustees of Funds and Endowments at endow@execpc.com.

BOARD MEETS JOINTLY WITH EAU CLAIRE GROUP

Haiti Project board members from the Madison and Milwaukee areas, Portage and Appleton met with the new coordinators from the Diocese of Eau Claire. Fr. George Stamm of Christ Church, Chippewa Falls received a domestic mission grant for a coordinator position. He sees his job as a central clearing house for communication with the EOM Haiti Project and with congregations in the Diocese of Eau Claire regarding financial needs, volunteering time, and planning trips to Haiti. He wants to keep the mission in front of people to maintain interest.

John and Carol Meacham from Spooner are sharing responsibilities for sponsorship coordination. They have 34 potential new sponsors but need to complete receipt of sponsorship payments. They plan to visit all 27 churches in their diocese and will emphasize how the mission at Jeannette is meeting the Millennium Development Goals. They have as their own goal to increase sponsorships by 25% or 10 new sponsors. The Diocese of Eau Claire has only 2700 members and covers a wide geographic area. Congregations are often struggling financially as well. Hopefully the new coordinators will be able to travel to Haiti within the near future and tell their personal story after returning.

HAITI PROJECT TO REMAIN ENTITY OF DIOCESE

In March four board members and the coordinator met with Bishop Miller and the Executive Council to present the rationale for remaining an entity of the diocese rather than seeking separate 501(c)3 status. The reasons cited were the mission of the church fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals, donors favoring accountability through the diocese, potential waste of financial resources to maintain separate status, and the diocese to diocese relationship that exists through the Diocese of Haiti Partnership Program. After discussion, Bishop Miller informed us that he and the Council had agreed unanimously to retain the Haiti Project within the Diocese. He affirmed our commitment to an important Christian mission, our long record of hard work and our fiscal responsibility. Future discussions will focus on what direction Diocesan oversight will take.

MILWAUKEE AREA HAITI CONNECTIONS

Board members met with this group of churches and organizations from the area who are working in Haiti was held in the Hales Corners Village Hall. Organizer Don Schwartz provided a generous continental breakfast with coffee from Haiti, including some packaged beans for sale as a fundraiser. Participants learned about each others programs and dialogued about how we can help each other. We met some college age people who are interested in working in Haiti in the areas of micro loans and biomedical technology. Fr. Lazard was the lone Haitian and only priest in attendance so got to do all the prayers. Prospective board member Stephen Smith was also in attendance.

FR LAZARD & STEPHEN SMITH CONNECT

FUNDRAISERS AND SERVICE PROJECTS

Would you like to do more for our friends in Haiti but cannot afford a monetary donation? Fundraisers or service projects of your own design are another way you can help. Two recent examples are the Victorian Tea and a Band Aid collection.

St. James, West Bend held their annual Victorian Tea outreach fundraiser which benefits the Haiti Project on Saturday, May 12, in the church parlor. Ladies wore their finest and hats were available for those who wished to wear one. Tables were set with linen cloths, embroidered napkins, china and silver with African violet centerpieces. To a background of beautiful and relaxing live piano music, finger sandwiches, scones, shortbreads, petit fours and, of course, tea, were served to all the tables. Ron Kegley served as photographer. Thank you St. James parishioners for all your hard work.

Through our website publicity we recently received nine pounds of band aids collected by Mr. Fred Ruebeck of Indianapolis, IN. He emailed friends and family telling them "Everything that we and our children take for granted is very much needed and appreciated in Haiti." He made a simple request that they each send him some band aids. They did and he shipped them on to us and they will travel to Haiti with the next group.

A similar approach could be used for other necessities such as toothbrushes, washcloths, nail clippers, cloth diapers, baby blankets, baby shampoo (travel size), and shirts or onesies. Simple medications such as antifungal cream, antibiotic ointment, acetaminophen (Tylenol), and ibuprofen, especially children's chewables are also always needed. Soap and shampoos are not needed at this time.

SO-- GET CREATIVE Haiti supporters!

Have you visited our website recently? You'll find lot's of information about the Haiti Project, a calendar of upcoming events, links to the newsletters and a display of original Haitian paintings that are available for purchase to benefit the project. Contact information for both the Dioceses of Milwaukee and Eau Claire is also located there. The coordinators are always happy to hear from you.

www.haitiproject.org

