

God's
Blessing
comes to
reality



Adalia Guterrez
ABCUSA International
Missions



THE MISSION GROUP
FROM JEFFERSON



PROJECT RESULTS

HOUSES₄HAITI



Project Update

On January 31st, a group of 16 participants landed in Port au Prince. We were embarking on a truly remarkable week, God's Blessing were tangible and bountiful. The group was comprised of numerous members of Jefferson Baptist, a group from FBC Waynesburg, and Frank Frischkorn and Adalia Gutierrez. The objectives for the week were to complete house #4 on the God's Blessing property in Mon Plaisir, build a cistern for a

well in Nsabb, run a water line from the existing well in Mon Plaisir. These were the tangible objectives, but the less clear were to be living examples to one another and the Haitian people of the power of God's love. The tangible missions were accomplished and it was very satisfying to see the new homeowners receive keys to their homes in a ceremony on Tuesday. The community was very well represented, as a group we could see the collective impact this project is having on the community. The accomplishments did not stop there as we continue to forge Christian relationships with our Haitian brothers and sisters working along side almost without disruption. Not rich or poor, black or white, not American or Haitian, no we were all one in the spirit of Christ. We had an opportunity to meet with Kevin Krick who along with his wife Trudy own the Haitian Elevation Corporation, Mon Plaisir community leaders, American Baptist Missionaries, and the General Secretary of the Haitian Baptist convention, Jenny Jenkins a medical missionary in Grand Goave. It was an opportunity to create synergy of all the different entities trying to combine forces to make a greater impact in Haiti, and for this project most specifically Grand Goave.

Pastoral Reflections -John Dorean

It is hard to imagine how the recent eight days in Haiti could have gone better. No one got sick or hurt, the planes were all on time, trips to and from the airport went smoothly, there was remarkable harmony and love among the team members, we got a whole lot of work done and enjoyed immensely building relationships with new Haitian friends. And for me personally, having my good friend and brother in Jesus, Jonathan Johnson along as a true co-leader was a blessing beyond words. What was especially gratifying was to see how our dreams of two years ago are coming to fruition. The compound that we purchased for this project was stunningly beautiful. Right on the ocean, most of us will only dream of waking up to the sight of crystal blue waters. We had seen pictures of it, but none of them began to capture the beauty of the place. We now have four houses completed at the site with a fifth to be built in the next couple of weeks. (Four of the ladies on our team had the privilege of handing the keys to their new homes to the women whose families are now occupying them.) The bath house with toilets and showers for the residents of what will be ten homes is nearing completion and we ran a water line to it from the well we have reclaimed after years of inactivity.



A couple of the Highlights from the Trip

We had opportunities to network, build a house, build community and enjoy the beauty of Haiti

The cistern which provides water for our property is already providing water for hundreds of neighbors in the community of Mon Plaisir. (When you consider that 60% of health costs in the community are from diseases from unclean drinking water, it becomes obvious what a huge deal this is.) We built a second cistern on the opposite end of Grand Goave while we were there and a third will soon be constructed with money we raised last year. We had the privilege of meeting with village elders who are running the cistern operation and who are part of planning for the project. Fishermen, teachers, pastors and school principals took an evening to share their hopes and dreams for their community. Because we had Adalia Gutierrez, Area Director for ABCUSA's International Missions for the Caribbean, Latin America, Spain and Portugal with us, we also had the opportunity to meet, think and strategize with long term ABCUSA missionaries in Haiti and the General Secretary and President of the Haitian Baptist Convention. And Adalia and ABCOPAD Executive Minister, Frank Frishkorn, both demonstrated for any skeptics that exceptionally gifted administrators can also carry their load in the pick and shovel detail. Thanks to all of you who have prayed or contributed in any way to this exciting adventure. Keep it coming. God is truly being honored in this important work.



Greetings in the LORD! - Frank Frischkorn

I'm writing this as I fly north to Miami, in the first leg of our journey home from the latest mission work tour to Grande Goave. We just cleared the borders of Haiti and are now over the crystal blue waters of the Caribbean. So many thoughts are going through my mind as I look back over these last days with the other members of the team, but the one that comes first and foremost to me, is a comment made during a conversation with team leader,

Pastor John Dorean. In talking about his choice of scripture text to use during the home dedication ceremony on our final day, Pastor John said, "You know it's a sad commentary that most people know John 3:16 — some can even quote it by heart — but sadly very few know the other John 3:16 passage." (An insight he learned from Millard Fuller, founder and former President of Habitat for Humanity). He was referring to 1 John 3:16-18 — the text for his words of encouragement at the dedication service: This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. — 1 John 3:16-18 For each of us that return home from Haiti today, we have a number of things in common: we're sleep deprived, we all are looking forward to a hot shower and we can't wait to see our loved ones again. But even more than that, we all come home changed people. We've looked into the eyes of those who are in need and sought to see them — really see them — in their pain, and then to meet them there to bring a word and touch of encouragement through the sweat of our brow, the work of our hands and the compassion of our hearts. Pastor John had another "phrase" that he used all week. It's a Creole phrase that is just two words in length, but it really does capture all that we sought to do in Jesus' Name. The phrase is "bon bagay," and it means "good thing".... we sought to honor the example of Jesus in our time with those in need in Haiti and it truly was "bon bagay"... it was a good (and a godly) thing. To God be the glory, Frank

Words of Encouragement- Adalia Gutierrez

"I am so grateful for the opportunity to be adopted by ABCOPAD mission's team to go to Grand Goave for a week. Pastor John Dorean and Jonathan Johnson were great team leaders. Also, what a great group of people to work with: They were hard workers, avid learners, humble servants, and a joyful team!

Although the need is great in Haiti, the joy and gratitude we were able to experience every day by working side by side with our Haitian brothers and sisters there, was inspiring. I was told this time there were as many Haitians workers as there were people in our group, since we are now -through our offerings-not only able to provide work for them but, by our presence we are also able to build a sense of community: they know we care and they appreciate our efforts. We got to see laugh from many children, sweat and dedication from many working hands, skilled women transporting a 5 gallon bucket of water on their head as a gesture of solidarity with our team. As we worshiped with the community on Sunday morning, we were reminded by Rev. Frank Frischkorn, ABCOPAD Regional Executive, Psalm 127:1 that "**Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain**" We were also reminded that "**There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither Haitian nor American, nor is there black and white, for WE are all one in Christ Jesus.**" (Gal 3:28 paraphrased)

May God continue giving us this sense of community so that, no matter where we live, we can all be one in Christ"

Area Director for Iberoamerica and the Caribbean

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If you would like to be apart of the amazing project, get involved today!
follow us on Facebook at
Houses for Haiti@haitihope2017
if you are interested in joining us on our next trip to Grand Goave or
would like to hear more about the vision.
email us at houses4haiti2017@gmail.com
if you would like to contribute to the project <https://secure-q.net/donations/ABCOPAD/323>

Thank You to Everyone that has made this possible

***Jefferson Baptist Church - Jefferson Pa
First Baptist Church of Waynesburg, Pa
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