

Mountains to Climb

George first met Jeanne when she was 15 years old. At the time, he was a student in Bible college and worked with her youth group at Christian Assembly in Boston. "He was watching me," smiles Jeanne. "He knew I wanted to be a missionary. One time he watched me carry my accordion a few blocks to see if I would complain. I really wanted to play at the outdoor meeting in the Boston Commons. I was good. I didn't complain." They courted for three years and married in 1960. Mountains to climb.

Knowing George's passion for sailing, Jeanne bought sailing lessons for his 40th birthday. George began spending time studying about sailing around the Caribbean. In 1978, the family began mission trips to Haiti. They would feed the Haitian children and began collecting money for Haiti. Soon, they realized for progress to be made they needed to be there. Mountains to climb.

In 1982, they bought five acres of oceanfront property in Leogane, Haiti. The Haitians believed this same five acres was demon-possessed. They were afraid of it and wouldn't walk on it. It produced no crops. One day while walking

on the land, George heard God say to him, "George, go with it." Interestingly, the caretaker of the land told George that 10 years prior, he had had a dream that some white people were going to come and help the Haitians. Today, the land is lush with green grass, mangoe and coconut trees.

In 1983, at the age of 48, after 25 years of pastoring in New England, George resigned and his family moved to Haiti. George, Jr. and Mary Ann were in college, but sons Charlie, 19 and Tim, 11 followed their parents to the mission field. They went with two pieces of luggage, each which included a tent. They slept on the ground in the tent, often in heavy rain. They bathed in a stream for three years. While they had little, they were excited to follow the call of God.



George & Jeanne DeTellis in Haiti pioneering New Missions in tents. The New Missions campus in Bordmer, Haiti.

Backpacks of Hope

"They don't need our soup and they don't need our soap—as much as they need our Savior," says Brent Gambrell, president of Brent Gambrell Ministries of Nashville.

Since 1990, Brent has been traveling full-time, ministering to students, singles and churches across the United States. As a result of a friendship struck up with Tim DeTellis, now president of New Missions, Haiti was added to Brent's regular travel schedule in 2003. In fact, Brent now leads a team of 20-30 people to Haiti four times a year—most recently having celebrated Thanksgiving there.

"Thanksgiving is a wonderful time in Haiti. One reason I plan trips at that time is because families can go—they're already off work and school," says Brent.

His heartbeat is preparing backpacks and brief cases for the students and staff of New Missions' 20 schools. What makes Brent's missions different from some others is they are highly focused on adding value to what New Missions already does. Brent's teams come alongside the school and church staff and bless them by helping them do their jobs better. With eight schools under his belt and plans for four trips a year, it won't be long before all 20 schools are reached.

Trip preparation begins a month in advance when the next school is selected for the backpacks. Brent's team finds out the ages of all the students as well as the number of boys and number of girls so that each backpack can be personalized. For example, in addition to pencils, pens, crayons, toothpaste, soap, etc., each



The joy of giving touches the heart of each child when they receive a backpack.

child is given a digital watch as a personal gift instead of a toy. The watch styles vary according to a child's age and gender.

As Brent speaks all over the United States, he also speaks of his love and passion for Haiti. He tells people about the Haitians, mission trip opportunities, child sponsorship opportunities, etc. As a result, one very small church held a toothpaste drive and came up with 350 tubes in just three days. Toothpaste is a huge luxury item in Haiti!

In addition to 395 backpacks for the Haitian children at the school in the village of Brache Gilles, Brent's Thanksgiving team filled 55 briefcases for the staff with bulk supplies such as construction paper, glue, scissors, colored pens, tape, tacks, etc. While presenting the briefcases, the mission team prayed over each staff member.

Another component to Brent-led mission trips is medical clinics. Actually before any backpacks are distributed, the mission team helps nurses conduct medical screenings on each student. These include blood pressure, weight and so forth. After each child's medical screening is completed and recorded, they are then presented with their personalized backpacks.

In the United States, Brent's connection to a pharmaceutical company allows him to go online to the company's website with a special code for ordering supplies. Over the years, the company has donated more than \$150,000 in supplies. Upon receiving these medical supplies, the clinic nurses sing out, "Thank you, Jesus!" On this trip, Brent's team discovered a desperate need for Pedia Lite, which is used to treat dehydration. However, their supplies did not include that item.

"My heart just sank when we realized the need for Pedia Lite," said Brent.

Brent's Thanksgiving team, comprising volunteers from 10 states, served in other capacities as well. One day, they helped cut bulk fabric to be made into uniforms for more than 1,000 students. One team member fixed the New Missions office computers and telephone system. Another team member was used in a mighty way by repairing four lawn mowers and a concrete mixer! Still others participated in hut-to-hut evangelism leading more than 10 Haitians and a voodoo priest to Christ! God can use everyone!

"We can't fix the poverty in Haiti," says Brent. "And we can't buy their happiness. However, we can offer heaven and powerful living. Our job is to let the Lord change one heart at a time."

—Terri Starcher



Brent Gambrell, from Two Rivers Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, preparing the distribution of backpacks to our school children in Haiti.

Baseball Field Update

There she was, Eveline, up to bat. Her focus was intense. And she hit the ball. A great hit. We all cheered. Eveline is 12 years old and lives in the community near our big tent in the Dominican Republic. She attends our school in the tent, and during recess, they go to the land next to our school that we are hoping to purchase before February lst. Looking over the 15 children playing baseball, they looked like the most ordinary kids in the world. Their clothing was

A sales agreement has been signed for us to purchase the property before February lst. We still need \$67,000. The land is over 2 acres and will allow us to build a baseball field immediately and then on to other projects, such as a basketball court.

In 2007, let's be used to save Eveline and hundreds of youth that need their minds focused on working for their future, their bodies strengthened with exercise, and through sports bring them to faith in Jesus Christ.

what they had - one girl in a pink nylon dress with sneakers and boys playing who didn't have sneakers. My heart was beating for Eveline. She is at the age when some girls go astray. Not this girl. New Missions has a dream for every child to be all that God has planned for them. At a meeting at the city hall, someone said to the mayor, "No one is doing anything for our youth." A mother of one of our teenagers piped up and said, "Pastor George loves the youth of Sosua." Please help us buy this land. We need \$67,000. —Jeanne DeTellis

Remembering the first day in Haiti, Jeanne said, "My husband is a fearless man. We had a ceremony. One by one, each of us hammered a stake into the ground, and George said, 'We hammer this stake into the heart of the devil to remind him that he was destroyed when Jesus died on the cross to give us victory." Mountains to climb.

Their anointing from God and willingness to live in conditions less than even a mud hut helped them bond with the Haitians. Within the first week, they provided medical care under a palm tree, gathered the children for school, and held church the first Sunday. Within one month, volunteers from churches in New England began visiting. Funding began coming in and the construction on the first building of New Missions was completed in three months. The DeTellis family moved into that building before the windows and doors were installed. In 1984, four classrooms were built. In 1985, the outdoor church was moved into a permanent building. In 1986, two more schools were built. In 1987, they built a clinic and a high school. Mountains to climb.

Without a vehicle, supplies were difficult to come by. It was eight miles one way to get water. Jeanne recalls walking for supplies and only buying what one could physically carry back.

Political unrest was a constant concern. The DeTellis' had been told by the U.S. Embassy several times,

"You need to leave." But they never left because they knew the children would not be fed and the work would not continue.

There were times when political tensions were extremely high in the 1980s, and New Missions was a prime target for violence. "We had an escape plan; we were at the end of a road and then there was the ocean," says Jeanne. "The plan was if George gave the signal, we were to cover ourselves with a green Army blanket and crawl to the next village for safety."

Jeanne recalls praying at night and trusting God to keep them safe. To this day, she quips about two broken blood vessels from biting her bottom lip. "If we think in the natural, we will tremble and shake with fear. If you live in the house of fear, you are destroyed. We disciplined ourselves to live in the house of love."

Despite political turmoil, New Missions grew quickly. Jeanne says there was always the sound of a concrete mixer. Today, there are 20 schools, 20 churches, 8,000 students and a medical clinic. Of particular note is that all the teachers were once hungry children but now are adults with money in their pockets. The clinic staff is no different. All but one nurse was once a child enrolled in a New Missions school.

"Our first goal is for the Haitians to hear the Gospel," said Jeanne. "The enemy has victory if a child can't read. The child will never read the Bible. Education is an effective tool. We are building a generation to see lives, and Haiti change."

"While we have no plans to retire, we are laying a foundation for the next generation of missionaries to serve," said Jeanne. "My son Timothy has a young mind and energy. Timothy's leadership of New Missions from the United States is a reflection of God's order."

Since George and Jeanne now live in the Dominican Republic, their son Charlie is the only American missionary in Haiti. Yet, he told his parents that he has 400 missionaries working with him because the Haitian staff is well trained to lead the work.

Jeanne says that over the years God woke her husband up in the middle of the night to talk to him. In 1996, God told George to go to the Dominican Republic to prepare another mission. New Missions now has a thriving ministry in both countries. With Haiti as God's blueprint, the Dominican Republic has four churches and four schools with 800 children enrolled. A health center is nearly complete.

Jeanne said, "George has had cancer now for seven years. I remember when we had decided to move to the Dominican six years ago. Loved ones thought it was time for George to find the rocking chair. 'Why? Haven't you done enough?""

George answered, "Lord, give me another mountain to climb." -Jeanne DeTellis interviewed by Terri Starcher

Thank God for His blessings of yesterday. Often I have said, "I don't know why God is so good to me!"

Yet, today I experienced His presence. We have begun working on our baseball field. Today, huge trucks delivered 200 meters of fill, and a front-end loader worked, spreading and leveling the ground. Tomorrow, we will do more work on the baseball field and spread top soil around our clinic building. Landscaping will begin.

The year 2007 is here. The God who has been with us in the past, and the present, will be with us in the future. Often I have told people, "You want blessing -- go to

Love, Senge - Ja George and Jeanne





Your Involvement Matters

Dear Friends of New Missions,

Would you please take a moment and give me your feedback? Here are three upcoming projects to help us continue to be effective as a ministry and I hope to have your involvement. I want to give you the first look at what's ahead.

- 1. We will launch a paperless giving system to help you go paperless and stretch the impact of your giving. Our costs with printing, paper, and postage can be greatly decreased as people like you decide to go paperless. To let us know that you are interested, please visit www.paperlessgiving.com and let us know what you think about participating in this cost-saving method to help us maximize each donated dollar.
- 2. We will begin this spring a "Pack a Backpack" campaign to ship backpacks to our school children this fall. We will need volunteers from local churches to champion this campaign. Let me know your interest at www.packabackpack.com



Gloria Estephanie Joseph from our Bordmer School, proudly wears her school backpack. We want to provide our school children back to school backpacks and will need your involvement.

3. Rice is still a great priority for our mission in Haiti. Your faithfulness in contributing to Rice for Haiti is vital this year. Thank you for helping us feed our children each day at school. Too often, the meal they receive at school is the only food they eat that day. Thirty dollars can help purchase a 100 pound sack of rice. To help us raise more awareness to this need we are launching a fundraising campaign. Children in Haiti go to sleep hungry and we want to expand our efforts to meet their needs. Will you join us in this project? Please visit www.riceforhaiti.com and register.

At New Missions we want to be effective in our calling. Focus is a driving force. To touch lives with great impact, clarity is important. Haiti and the Dominican Republic are areas of focus for our ministry. We want to maximize our impact in the lives of the children that we serve. These new projects will help us go further in our ministry efforts of touching lives with God's saving love.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support. I look forward to hearing from you. —*Timothy DeTellis*



Purchasing sacks of rice provides the vital support for feeding our school children and special distributions in surrounding villages. This is an ongoing need and you can now play a special part in raising funds to purchase rice for our school children

in Haiti.

Everyone Loves a Good Story

George DeTellis, Jr., the oldest of the DeTellis family children, has a passion for telling stories when he travels speaking for New Missions.

As New Missions' Director of Church Relations, George has spoken all over the United States and Canada, and recently returned from Scotland and England. Next month, George will speak at 6 churches in Italy. The primary purpose of his speaking is to get children sponsored – but George first focuses on the needs of the people, and then invites them to sponsor children.

"My favorite aspect about speaking is when I can inspire and move people," said George. "My dad taught me years ago that you have to minister to people first." George remembers one sermon on forgiveness. After the service, an older man who had been going through a bitter legal dispute with his neighbor approached him. He and George connected and had a good discussion. George touched the man's life.



In Glasgow, Scotland, George Jr. and Pastor DiStaulo visited Pastor Alex and Charlotte Gillies of Victory Christian Centre. From left to right: George, Rev. Alex Gillies, Charlotte Gillies and Rev. David DiStaulo.

George believes that only when you build a relationship with the people, they will consider being involved with New Missions. His sermons challenge people to think about their life's purpose and God's plan for them. The sad pictures and DVD of a thirdworld country are reserved for a display table after the church service when George can visit with the people one on one.

George, Sr. was the head spokesperson for New Missions up until 1999, but since travel can be rather grueling and his health had become a factor, the baton was officially passed to George, Jr. in 2000. Since George had already been speaking regularly, it was a natural transition from father to son. His very first New Missions speaking engagements was actually as a 23year old college student. In the 90's, George, Jr. spoke about 20 times a year through Massachusetts from a network of pastors his father knew.



In October 2006, George DeTellis, Jr. and Rev. David DiStaulo, chairman of the New Missions Canada Board of Directors from Montreal, visited England and Scotland. In England, they visited Pastor David and Lizbeth Lee of Knoll Farm Christian Mission in Poole. From left to right: Rev. David DiStaulo, Rev. David Lee and George DeTellis, Jr.

"The travel, and being away from my family can be tiring," said George. "And with airplane travel you may earn a lot of frequent flier miles, but you also frequently get sick." George laughed, remembering an engagement to speak at a small church on a Wednesday night. It was a group of college students. He admitted that he really wasn't up for it, and complained to himself the whole way there. He remembers it well because he ended up speaking to a huge group of ethnically diverse students who were passionate. He preached, then showed the New Missions DVD. That night 20 children were sponsored. George said he "had a blast" and ended up going to Denny's with a group of the students until 1:00 a.m.

"It's great to connect through storytelling," said George. "I want people to sense God's purpose for their lives. I want to touch somebody's heart for God.

– Terri Starcher

Be The Voice

Encouraging others to sponsor a child makes a great difference in the life of a child.

Daily living in Haiti doesn't provide much hope for children. In many cases, parents and grandparents are polluting their minds with the voodoo religion, so prevalent in Haiti. A child can grow up living in one village as their whole sphere of influence, but having contact with a sponsor and knowing that sponsor loves them and cares about them provides hope.

Not only does sponsorship help a child, but that same child takes your letters to show his or her family—creating yet

another opportunity to share the news of Jesus to family members who may not get exposure.

There are hundreds of children still in need of sponsors, which means New Missions needs you for its volunteer network to speak about the difference sponsorship makes in the life of a child. Participating in the volunteer network doesn't have to be formal. It can be as simple as telling friends, co-workers, Sunday school classes, neighbors, etc. You can be the voice for children waiting for a sponsor. Michelle Boesch, who oversees New Missions' volunteer ministries, provides each volunteer with photographs of several children who need sponsors as well as resource materials of information on Haiti and how the program works. According to Michelle, people who return from mission trips are ideal for

involvement in the New Missions volunteer network

because they've seen first-hand how important



George & Lori Losch along with their son Georgie, shared during a Friends of Haiti Reunion at Cedar Grove Brethern in Christ Church in Mifflintown, Pennsylvania about their involvement with New Missions as representatives.

sponsoring a child can be. A Tennessee man who recently returned from a trip to Haiti was so excited to spread the word about child sponsorships that he's going a step further than speaking about it. He plans to coordinate a silent auction for several children in need of sponsors.

Sponsors who go on mission trips get to meet their sponsored child. This can be a moving and rewarding experience. You can become a New Missions representative, and be the voice for children waiting for help. Contact Michelle@newmissions.org for more details.

Your voice will make a life-changing difference. – Terri Starcher

Baseball Field Update

Three years ago, Lewis Fraser sent his wife, Melissa, and his 13-year old son, Niko, on a missions trip to New Missions, in the Dominican Republic. His son Niko played baseball with children and youth whenever he could. Before the week was over, Niko had a dream to build a baseball field for the children in Sosua, DR. Mr. Fraser never imagined that his 13-year old son would dream such a big dream.

Last Sunday Lewis Fraser attended a church in Miami, Florida. The family had been in prayer, asking God what should be their part in the Sports Ministry. Niko's father felt moved by the sermon and a song, "O Zion Haste." The last verse of the song says:



Give of thy sons to bear the message glorious; Give of thy wealth to speed them on their way; Pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious; O Zion, haste to bring the brighter day.

This song, written in 1868, moved Niko's father to talk to the family, and they are giving a matching gift of \$15,000 for the Sports Ministry. New Missions needs to raise the first \$15,000, and the Fraser family will match the funds. Will you help us to see Niko's dream come true for the children in the Dominican Republic? —Jeanne DeTellis

Niko hitting the ball and dreaming of a baseball field.

The Riches of Christ

We at New Missions have declared that this is the Year of Blessing. In six days, God brought the world to a place where man could live on it. On the seventh day, God rested. Seven has long been considered the number of God. Two thousand seven – we are claiming blessing on our ministry, our families and on every aspect of our lives. Yet, still the world groans with war, famine, disasters, disease and for many of us, advancing years. Paul the Apostle put things in perspective of eternity. He said this light affliction is but for a moment. 2 Corinthians 4:17 Eternity is forever and there will be eternal blessings. Now we live in a temporal world and yet, here and now we know the blessing of God.

I think back to my years in Bible college and graduate school. One of the subjects I enjoyed discussing with the teachers and students was "law and gospel." The law has definite and strong demands. It says thou shalt not. Yet the law could not save. It did not have the power to save, only to show where we fell short. We are like the man with bow and arrow aiming to hit the target. But, every time we took perfect aim and had the greatest intentions we always missed the target. Paul said, "We have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23"

Imagine a small, one room school with a strict schoolmaster. The school had a long list of rules: no talking, sit up straight, all work must be prepared on time. The list goes on seemingly

endless. And for every infraction of the rule, there was strict punishment: write long sentences, stand in the corner, and even corporal punishment. The students all tried hard to be good, yet dreaded being in school. Outside the school, some children were playing, even laughing and having a good time in the playground. One day, a sound came from the back of the room. "Johnny. Come. Come out of the class." Behold, at the back of the room, there was a hole. When the teacher wasn't looking, Johnny went out the hole and began to enjoy freedom on the outside. The hole in the back of the room was Jesus Christ.

The law came by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. Romans 10:4

Now we experience the riches of His grace. Ephesians 1:7 The Bible clearly teaches us the severity of God. When Adam and Eve disobeyed, they were put out of the Garden of Eden. The law had its just demands. But Christ came. He took our sins upon Himself and suffered the demands of the law which was death. Jesus died in our place. He is our substitute. No one but Jesus ever fulfilled the law. He alone is righteous. Now His righteousness is imputed to us. We have become the righteousness of God in Christ. "We are found in Him, not having our own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ. Philippians 2:9"

Paul declared, "Christ is the end of the law. Romans 10:4" Now, as it were when I aim for the target with my bow and arrow, I hit the target every time. We enjoy rich blessings in this life, and blessings in the life to come that we cannot now express. Now, we enjoy the riches of our inheritance. We are heirs and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. There is a wonderful expression in Spanish here in the Dominican Republic, "Mi casa es su casa." (My house is your house.) God says to us, "My house is your house." All that God is and all that He has He gladly gives to His children. He says, "My universe is your universe."

My children know that anything and all I have is for them when I'm gone. But they have reminded me that they have growing families and have needs now. Why wait until I've left this world to share with my children. Therefore, now, as I am able, I rejoice to bless my children. We have an eternal inheritance with God. But here and now He wants to bless us and give us some of the inheritance that is in store for us. God rejoices to bless His children. Often we hear Christians talk of being sinners. We all know of our human nature and the potential of disobedience. We are now new creatures in Christ. Old things are passed away and behold all things are become new. Now we are the Saints of God – we are the children of God. We are blessed.

-Pastor George DeTellis

Jeanne and I are experiencing busy days – but they are good days. Early in life we were both called to the service of our Lord. Nothing gives us greater pleasure than to serve. We are glad to report that both our English-speaking church and our Spanish church are doing well. We have a great team of missionaries – we are working together. We are experiencing God's blessing. We pray for you daily. We thank God for you.

Love

George and Jeanne

Denge + Jan





Love Your Mission

Dear Friends of New Missions,

When it comes to home repairs, there is always something to do. Replace a light bulb, re-paint, fix a broken door or window, etc. In Haiti, we have 20 elementary school locations representing 45 buildings. In addition,

we have a high school campus with four buildings. There is maintenance when you have facilities for 20 elementary schools and 7,380 students in Haiti.

We welcome your involvement to help us raise the necessary funds to make improvements at all our schools. We have two painters working for us full time. To paint one school building could cost around \$1,000 depending on the building size. To replace a school roof would cost around \$5,000. Some roof replacements will cost more.

Many of our buildings are over 10 years old. They are in need of new paint, new doors, roof repairs and a few need structural improvements. For example, we want to replace the wooden school doors with metal doors. A new metal door costs \$125. Charlie DeTellis is making site



Our Bordmer elementary school was our first school location in Haiti and now has 327 children enrolled.

inspections to assure that we are investing the resources to improve each location effectively.

"We want to maintain excellence in all that we do in Haiti," says Charlie. "Our schools need these special improvements to continue the reputation we have made of being a first-class organization."

The children's spirits are elevated when they come to school because we provide them the proper environment to learn and grow. New Missions is about quality. With your faithfulness, we will continue to care more and increase the impact we have in the lives of our school children. Your giving toward the "Love Your Mission" special offering will help us expedite these improvements. Thank you for making New Missions better for those that we serve each day. *—Timothy DeTellis*



First in the Dominican Republic

Visiting a third-world country will offer many "firsts" and that was no exception during a Tennessee team's March mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

Diane Brown-Vineyard has been to Haiti, but this time helped lead a team of 10 to the D.R. from her home church of First Baptist Church of Hendersonville in Tennessee. She first became involved with New Missions three years ago after a "burning desire to help children" prompted her to approach her church's minister of missions about where she could serve. That minister was familiar with New Missions and told Diane that it was so organized and so detailed that it would likely be a very good fit for her. Diane investigated, agreed and later went to Haiti in 2005. Two years later in March 2007, she helped lead a team to the D.R. where they participated in several "firsts."

The first "first" occurred during a Wednesday night Bible study in one of the Dominican villages. The team participated in the children's ministry by putting on a puppet show.

"I don't believe the kids had ever seen a puppet. They loved it," laughed Diane. "And we were by no means professional. Evidently, the curtain back drop we hid behind wasn't exactly in 'show condition' and had never been used before. We made it work."

While Haiti and the Dominican Republic are neighboring countries with similar geography, one thing they do not have in common is tourism. Haiti is much less stable than the Dominican and although still



Diane Brown-Vineyard getting to know her sponsored child Wildonson Merveille.



Mission team from First Baptist Church of Hendersonville along with some of our missionaries and Pastor George DeTellis.

a third world country, part of the D.R.'s economy relies on tourism. This certainly helps in providing much needed employment, but the ugly side of tourism is the rampant prostitution that comes along with it. Young girls turn to prostitution to help their families make a living.

Another first for the team was finding themselves...in a third world country...on a Saturday night...sharing Jesus with prostitutes!

"Talking to those young girls was an unreal, warm experience," said Diane. "The girls were lining up to talk to us. We just loved on them and didn't judge them." And talk to them they did—including the American men on the team who treated the young girls like human beings.

The problem with prostitution is exactly one of the reasons why New Missions is active in the Dominican. Children need education because that sets them on a path to learn a trade rather than to use their bodies.

As for more "firsts" associated with this Tennessee team, Diane reported that this was the first mission trip ever for some on the trip. "Haiti and the Dominican are a good experience for first timers. I feel safe and New Missions takes very good care of you," said Diane.

Another positive result of the trip—and another first—is six people on the team decided to sponsor children. Won't you consider your first mission trip or your first sponsored child? –*Terri Starcher*

Health Center and Baseball Field Update

Excitement is running high at the mission. Everyone is talking about the baseball field and the opening of the health center. The health center will be dedicated in May.

John Hanley and his wife Melissa, missionaries from Lakeland, Fla., were in the Dominican Republic the week of March 13. They came to find housing and a vehicle. It worked out great. Missionaries Chantz and Renee Cutts with Brodie and Brett will be going back to Texas after being with us for 1-1/2 years. John was able to buy Chantz's vehicle and make arrangements with the owner to rent the house that Chantz is living in. John is finishing up a double masters program and plans to move to the Dominican Republic in mid May. Then the health center will be up and running.



Beautiful art purchased by Jeanne's sister, Elizabeth and her husband Peter Cavallaro, being hung in the main lobby of our health center. Two men, Robert Sumptner and Tim Vogel with their wives Myrna and Karen, did great work hanging 12 paintings.



Shaun Powers brought a heart monitor from the Rachel-Lydia Circle of St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Largo, Fla. Shaun left with John and Melissa Hanley.

Literally, hundreds of shrubs and trees have been planted around the clinic and the adjoining school. A team of six men worked for five weeks. There is a row of coconut palms and a sloping plot of banana trees. Decorative shrubs grace the sides of the health center and walkways. The trees and plants were donated by Ronald and Mona Blissett, members of New Life Church in Sosua, D.R.

There is a lot of work to do on the baseball field such as additional landscaping and leveling and extending the field. Also, it would be great to have a wall indicating the length of the ball field and how far the ball needs to be hit for a home run. The infield will receive our first attention. Marking of the infield with base lines, pitcher's mound and foul lines is important. A chain-link backstop will also be put in place. Then,

benches for each team with coverings to keep them out of the sun will be built. Come June, a group of athletes from the First Baptist Church in Hendersonville, Tennessee are coming to do a baseball clinic. We will be working hard to have things ready for them. There is more than one way to catch fish, and sports for children, youth and even adults is a great fishnet. This is another way to bring Christ to the Dominican Republic. —*Pastor George DeTellis*

Who Am I?

"Who am I?" is a question often asked. Some people have been known to go off to a desert or high mountain in search for identity. I'm sure the ventures did not end in full success. For to know oneself is a lifetime adventure. The greatest question we ask is, "Who is God?" Again, we know God from the revelation of God in Scripture. There also, is where we gather the great information about man. We know God when we believe on Him; then, in a personal way, we even learn more about Him, as we walk with Him and serve Him. Life, after all, is a learning, growing experience. Now we know as seeing through a glass dimly. Thank God one day we will know fully. We will know, even as we are known. We will see God face to face.

Man is unique. We have some characteristics of an animal, and yet, we are more. We are called man. "God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27." Surely, we do not have God's physical characteristics. He is everywhere present. He is all powerful, and all knowing. But, spiritually, we are created like Him. We have the ability to pray and praise. We have a sense of immortality. The Bible says, our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

Man, like God, has the ability to think and to reason in abstractions. We are able to transcend time and space. Animals are different. The beaver builds the same dam: each bird, the same nest and the bee, the same hive. They live by instinct. What animal ever drew a picture of himself?

We humans have been, "fearfully and wonderfully made." We grow in knowledge. The advances in technology and science in our lifetime have been staggering. Now, even at my age, I am learning a new language (Spanish).

Animals do love and show loyalty to their masters. They care for their young, and often will protect them even to the danger of their own lives. But, they do not have a sense of morality. We humans want to be good. We love justice, mercy and truth. These are traits embedded within us by our Maker.

Man experienced a great tragedy. The greatest in human history. Planted in a beautiful garden, they disobeyed God's command; ate of a forbidden fruit and fell from the exalted place of their creation. Sin entered the human race and the image was marred - not destroyed – marred!

Sin has its toll. Now, there is sickness and old age; the harbingers of death.

In Jeremiah the eighteenth chapter, the prophet was sent to the house of a potter. The potter had a vessel on his wheel, but it became marred. The potter broke the clay and made it again into another vessel, into a vessel of beauty. This represented the nation of Israel, and also represents all of creation. Someone said, "people never change." There is some truth to that. But, there is a greater truth. God

changes people. God's Son came and died to give us new life. God does an extreme makeover when we come to faith in Jesus. We are born again. John 3:7 Redemption is to buy back or to remake. "We are redeemed not with corruptible things, like silver or gold, ...but with the precious blood of Christ." 1 Peter 1:18

We Christians are different and we need to allow that difference to come through, for the world to see that our relation with Jesus does make a difference. Christianity is not only a set of beliefs – a list of doctrines that comprise the teachings of Scripture. We are to live as new creatures in Christ, Our mind, heart, and decisions need to be formed by the Holy Spirit. We are to live so that our lives reflect God's image and give glory to God. Then one day we will be changed completely in a moment in the twinkling of an eve. 1 Corinthians 15

After Adam and Eve's disobedience. they covered themselves with leaves "because they were naked." God asked, "Who told you, that you were naked?" It is believed that Adam and Eve, before the Fall, were covered with the glory of God. They were full of the colors of light and were magnificent in their beauty. After the Fall, they lost their brilliance and beauty. Now, we need to allow the beauty of Jesus to be seen in us. In the Kingdom, there will be no need of clothing for our former beauty will be restored. We will shine as the stars in the heavens. The image fully restored!

-Pastor George DeTellis

"Help us Lord," is our cry. We are ever busy with administrative responsibilities, meetings to attend and the planning of activities. Yet, nothing is more important than prayer. Hours each day, and often through the night are spent with God. Always, we are in need of His wisdom and strength for the work. Our prayer is, "Lord keep us close to You, and direct our lives." Jeanne and I are in good health – happy in the work of the Lord.

Love, George & Janne

George and Jeanne





Pack A Backpack Campaign

Dear Friends of New Missions,

Have you ever tasted homemade spaghetti sauce? The real thing! Not the off the shelf jar, but the kind that only your mother can make? Growing up in an Italian home provided the benefit of having homemade spaghetti sauce. It's simply the best. Some off the shelf tomato sauces try their best to imitate what's homemade. Prego's slogan is "It's in there!" helping us believe that whatever mother would do, we would do to make it the best tasting. There's something about homemade! It has that real flavor.

With our school children we want to give them something real, tangible, and practical for this coming school year. A backpack filled with school supplies and their school books.

Over the next six months, we will, with your help reach the goal of providing our school children a back to school backpack along with their school books and school supplies. Your special one-time gift of \$25 will make all of this possible. We will purchase the supplies in Haiti and the Dominican Republic and assemble the backpacks in country then distribute them to our students. This will make the project more efficient. It will be as good as homemade. Originally we wanted to have friends of New Missions ship backpacks to our office and then ship them overseas, but the cost for shipping and processing exceeds the value of the contents. We want to be efficient in our ministry and also support the local economy in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

The countdown begins at 8,000 backpacks and we have 180 days to go until October 31st. Between now and the end of October we are counting on you to tell your friends and family to sponsor a backpack and send a child in Haiti back to school with their school books, school supplies, and most of all, the joy of knowing that Jesus is the real answer for life.

You may know a school in your area or your home church that could help promote the pack a backpack campaign. Please contact us for some brochures that you can strategically distribute to involve others in this special campaign for children overseas in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Email info@newmissions.org or call our office and we will send brochures for you to share with others. Thank you for your support of the "Pack A Backpack" campaign as we continue to reflect God's love to those we serve.

-Timothy DeTellis



Baseball Field Update

Some of my fondest memories as a boy were playing baseball. I grew up in the city of Boston. In our neighborhood there were no athletic facilities; therefore, we used any vacant lot to play ball. We were thoroughly unorganized. Simply, we chose sides and positions. I always liked to play left field. I had a good eye and could gauge where the ball would be. What a thrill to run – jump and find the ball in your glove. I remember well teaching myself how to hit the ball. When very young, I consistently struck out. One day, I watched the pitcher and I followed the ball to the plate. When I swung, I hit the ball for a home run. By myself I learned, "Keep your eye on the ball." I was always one of the best hitters on the team.

Here in the Dominican Republic, the national sport is baseball. The children and youth are especially encouraged by the large number of Dominicans who end up in America playing professional baseball.

What an opportunity we have. Already, we have the land for a ball field, and we are working to develop the site. Jesus used fishing to speak of bringing men to faith in God. Many of the early apostles had been fishermen. "I will make you fishers of men," Jesus said. These men knew the joy of bringing in a net full of fish.





This baseball field is our latest fish net. Plans are to have teams of various ages. Lessons will be good sportsmanship, team effort, good moral character – play the game right and fair. But, first and foremost, we will present the claims of Christ. We believe that God will use baseball to bring many to faith in Jesus Christ.

-Pastor George DeTellis

Staying on Course

About New Missions

New Missions, headquartered in Orlando, Fla., is one of the largest mission organizations working in Haiti. With nearly 8,000 students in school from pre-school through high school and over 300 full-time Haitian staff, New Missions is one of the largest employers in Leogane, where its mission is located. Since 1983, New Missions has been providing education, medical care and food and has established 20 churches across the Leogane Plain. New Missions also serves the North Coast of the Dominican Republic in Sosua.

Following is from an interview with New Missions President Tim DeTellis.

What was the greatest lesson you learned growing up on the mission field? Tim: Sometimes you have to say "no" so you can say "yes." It's painful to see how much need there is in the world. You realize you can't help everyone so you learn to focus in order to be more effective with the people you can help. Even Jesus didn't heal everyone. He focused very well.

What was a great lesson you learned growing up in the home of a pastor? Tim: Actually, a great lesson I learned from my father was not from his role as a pastor, but from his love for sailing. Before we moved to Haiti, we had a sailboat in New Port, Rhode Island, and we would often take short sailing trips together. I learned that no matter the storm, weather conditions, or whatever may break on the boat, you kept on sailing. Stay on course toward your destination. Never give up.

What is the purpose of New Missions?

Tim: To preach the Gospel and lead people to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. That is the forefront of what we do regardless of providing education, medical care and food. Preaching and planting churches is our core focus.



Now that the board of directors has named you president of New Missions, where are you leading the organization?

Tim: To be passionate about serving those God places in front of us and to be excellent in all that we do. We are committed to the long term impact in a child's life beyond graduation. I call that child discipleship. We are engaging them spiritually as well as providing business and life skills so they can help themselves and their people. We want to affect their culture and the future by raising a generation of Christian leaders.



Where is the greatest mission field in the world today?

Tim: I remember when I came back to the U.S. from Haiti to attend college. The challenge I faced was losing my significance, i.e. I was a missionary—what's my purpose now? Then God made it clear that my mission field is wherever I'm standing. We need to ask God to use us right where we are whether we're business professionals, teachers or stay-at-home moms.

How can people pray for New Missions?

Tim: Prayer is vital for us. We seek God's guidance in every decision we make. Pray that God opens the doors for us to expand our reach. We currently have 8,000 children in school and we want to reach 10,000 children. This requires more child sponsors and donors who will stand beside us in this great vision to raise a generation of Christian leaders.

Be Fruitful

How do we define success? When someone says, "that person is successful!" what do we think about? The world views success as accomplishments relating to money, social status, materialism, and power. Is that bad? No, unless that becomes our focus. Greed, envy, and pride will destroy a person. Servant leadership and the motivation to be successful to help others is an aspiration. To be fruitful, the way Jesus defines success is to live outward for the benefit of others.

Recently, I was with a businessman who shared with me about an organization that he was supporting. He had been giving to this other non-profit for some time, and they were just entering a large building campaign to expand their facilities. He had talked about a business deal that he was going to broker which could potentially earn his company seven figures. He already had plans to give 100% of the earnings to the organization that he was involved with. Giving to something you believe in can be done while you are successful. The goal is to become fruitful with your success.

We have a donor from New Hampshire that sells modular homes. He specializes in the area of sales. When we were talking one day on the telephone, he shared with me the desire to designate a portion of each home sale to New Missions, with the goal of helping to build homes in Haiti. Currently, New Missions does not have a home building project, but we have provided special financial gifts on behalf of this donor to Haitians who work with our mission to re-build their homes or build new homes. This is a unique way of giving. I'd say, that is being fruitful.

Jesus, in the book of John, shared that "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." John 15:1&2 We are to be fruitful as we connect more to the will of our heavenly Father. We can be successful in the world's eyes, while being fruitful for God's glory.

When you strive for your next goal, or you reach a new milestone in your career, celebrate. Then when your efforts produce results, share the blessing with others. The fact is we ought to be fruitful in the lean seasons of life, and also in the growth seasons. Why? Because our heavenly Father desires us to remain

in Him so that He may bless us.

"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." John 15:7&8 The closer we are to God. our desires become His desires. We then begin to act outward in our giving. I've often said, charity is giving to someone who could never pay you back. The fact is, a gift is just that, it is without expectation of a repay. God desires us to be fruitful in our lives so we are a blessing. We are a blessing to others with our time, in relationship and fellowship. We can be a blessing by sharing our talents and skills on the job as a faithful and trustworthy employee. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." Colossians 3:23 While we are fruitful as God's people, our greatest blessing comes from our eternal inheritance. "...you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." Colossians 3:24

Today, look at where God has placed you. You are working for Him. Be fruitful. –*Timothy DeTellis*

God wants you to draw near to Him. In Jeremiah chapter 17 we are reminded that the person who places their trust in the Lord will find confidence there. Our strength is not our own. Surrender daily and allow God to fill you to be His vessel. As you yield to God, He will draw closer to you. Personally, I kneel before my heavenly Father; I pray often and ask God to speak to me. Then I pause. Only in silence can I listen. God is leading as we yield.

Serving together,

Timothy DeTellis

Timothy@newmissions.org





Middle School Construction

Dear Friends of New Missions,

We have a vision to see 10,000 children attending school in Haiti by the year 2010, and to help reach that goal we need to expand our facilities. Currently in Haiti, we have the Middle School students (grades 7 & 8) located at the High School campus. We are at full capacity in the High School and need to make room.

Our High School campus is located on the main highway, which is the only road in the entire country that goes east to west. Just east of our High School campus on the highway, we have our Signeau Elementary School. On this property we have plenty of land to build a Middle School campus. The Middle School campus will consist of two buildings 26 feet wide by 150 feet long for a total of 3,900 square feet each. The buildings will each have five classrooms. Adjacent to these buildings will be a dining hall that is already on the property for lunch.

Charlie emailed me an update from Haiti about our April team's week long visit to Haiti from Newport Assembly in Pennsylvania. Here is Charlie's email: Our schedule on Monday with our April team consisted of unpacking supplies, pouring a concrete walkway at our Bordmer church, unloading a truck-load of rice around noon, and doing village ministry in LaSalle. We were all exhausted by the time we got back to the mission for dinner. We also visited a worker of New Missions in LaSalle who had been hurt in a car accident.

Guerlande Altidor, Weldie Jean Louis, and Kemson Alexis know the joy only found in Jesus. Our students are at a pivotal point in their personal and spiritual development. The expansion of our Middle School campus will open the doors for hundreds of students.

At first, I wondered how God was going to use us to convey the Gospel message to such a primitive people. And then, I remember how God gave great results in village ministry in the past. We cannot do any spiritual work by ourselves. We need to present the truth and let God do the rest. We visited two homes, and at both locations people came to faith. Two older teenage girls and three younger girls prayed to receive Jesus.



Middle School Construction – Continued from page 1

One of the younger girls had a great smile and she caught my attention from the start. After a couple of days, I sent a photo of the girl back to the village with a translator to find the girl and find out more about her. Her name is Guerlande Altidor. Julie Bouchard from Tryon, North Carolina is Guerlande's sponsor. She is in the second grade at LaSalle. She is 10 years old. She is a very poor girl without even sneakers to wear to school. She told me her sneakers were torn. She wears plastic sandals. Also, her father died three years ago. She has five sisters, with a lot of her sisters

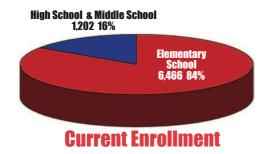


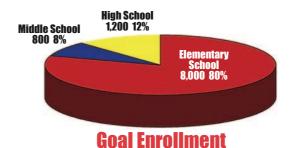
Many children are looking forward to a bright future as they grow as Christian leaders in our 20 Elementary Schools, Middle School, High School, and Bible College.

younger than her. This girl is really dirt poor, and yet she really shows a joy on her face. Later that week, I sent for Guerlande; she came and visited the main mission where I was able to give a bag of clothes and school supplies for her and the friends she brought. There are many Haitian women in Haiti without the means to provide for them. Often the women have children to take care of. This is where New Missions is a big help in the community. Many Haitians are trying to find the food they need each day to survive. They will be content with any kind of food they can find. Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? James 2:5

I was impressed with Charlie's email because it reminded me that because New Missions was there, Guerlande has found hope in Jesus. She is in school and one day will attend our Middle School. She has a bright

future thanks to her sponsor and the power of God's love. What is the value of an education? To a child in Haiti, education is priceless. Together, we are helping the children of Haiti discover the joy of knowing Jesus. They are becoming a generation of Christian leaders who will make a difference. *—Timothy DeTellis*





Health Center Administrator

On June 9th, we will have the dedication service for the health center in the Dominican Republic. We anticipate a wonderful time of celebration. On May 20th, John and Melissa Hanley along with their daughter Kate arrived in the Dominican Republic from Grace Church in Lakeland, Florida. John will be the administrator for the health center. We look forward to providing a full update in our July newsletter. Thank you for your prayers and support as we begin this new ministry. *–Timothy DeTellis*



Willing Hands in Haiti

Once again, another team from Pennsylvania volunteered their time and effort for Haiti. And once again, another mission trip showed how much variety there is for everyone to participate and contribute. Volunteer qualifications are primarily "big heart and willing hands."

The seven-member team from Newport Assembly of God not only poured a concrete sidewalk, but participated in a number of distribution activities. They measured, cut, folded and distributed fabric to students for school uniforms, distributed bags full of necessities and distributed more than 2,000 pounds of rice. Two schools ranging from pre-K through the sixth grade in the villages of Flonc and Lafferonay were this April team's focus.

While some team members were busy cutting and distributing fabric, others were busy entertaining classroom children with tricks and animal balloons. "It was a joy to see their faces," said Team Leader Lena Kemble who has been to Haiti three times. "They were so joyful and even started singing for us. The words were something like 'the devil can't beat me…I have Jesus in my heart.""

In the village of LaSalle, the team switched from "willing hands" to "willing feet" by prayer walking. A highlight from that activity was when a 12-year-old orphan girl they met accepted Jesus into her heart. The team also experienced the joy of having lunch with their sponsored children as well as presenting gifts to 13 additional children sponsored by church members back home.

The willing hands and willing feet of this seven-member team were certainly used for kingdom work. *-Terri Starcher*

Top Photo - Lauren Kemble, Pat Owen and Pat Kemble distributing rice at the school in Flonc.

Second Photo - Glenn and Eric Kemble measuring a school student in Flonc for uniform material.

Third Photo - The Kemble family and their sponsored child Robessca.

Bottom Photo - Pat Owen with Barquens, who is sponsored by the Newport Assembly of God Rock Solid Youth Group.



Your Daily Thoughts

Would it be fair to say that everyone has had something bad said about them? The old saying, *sticks* and stones may break my bones but names will never hurt me, is not true! The fact is, what people say, does stick. And often the negative words stick like super glue.

What do we do about the thoughts that flood our mind which are not positive? How do we process the negative thoughts that tear down our self-image, our self-esteem, and our daily attitude? We must learn to control our thinking, attitude, and behavior. That's all we can do. How? We begin by filtering and monitoring what we accept as truth or accusation. We must defend our minds against pollution.

When it comes to mind or thought pollution, I can't help but think of global warming as an analogy. There is much talk, and debate, about global warming. I believe in protecting our earth through practical measures of moderation in all that we do. However, the fact is, we have a population increase on our hands that our world has never before experienced. Global modernization is on the rise, and we commute and travel like never before. It is similar with our thoughts and opinions. They too travel and melt down the core of our protective minds,

our daily thoughts. People gossip, opinions are shared, and soon those comments become darts of negative weapons that inflict our minds. We need to practice defensive measures to protect our daily thoughts from negativism, doubt, and misbelief.

Do you have control or influence? We certainly cannot control what other people think. However, we can influence others! How people react to what we say and do becomes our influence. Therefore, we must be careful about which words we use and what things we do.

I like to communicate and find myself practicing the "pause" when I speak, not because I say too much, but because I am too slow to listen. When you quickly respond, did you really take the time to listen? I catch myself holding back my responses until I fully hear what the person wanted me to hear. That keeps me from hearing only what I wanted to hear.

The mind is a powerful tool. You can ask yourself a question and your mind will go to work seeking an answer. Recently, I had a conversation with my wife about negative thoughts. The question was raised, why do we remember negative thoughts for so long? The fact is, because they mean more to us. Why? We are made of

emotions: love, happiness, anger, fear, and sadness.

I believe that the Bible clearly teaches us to guard our daily thoughts. Philippians 4:4-9 shares: Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with vou.

Our minds influence our thinking, attitude, and behavior. Today, whatever is true, whatever is noble, right, pure, lovely and admirable, focus on these and live a life that is positive for the glory of God. Remove the influence of fear or negative thoughts. You are a child of the King, a royal priesthood. Live in Christ today. *Timothy DeTellis*

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Joy comes from within, happiness comes from what happens to us. Today, find strength from what God is doing in your life. What thrills us at New Missions is how we see the difference God is making. Thank you for reflecting God's love by participating in the "Pack a Backpack" campaign. You can visit www.packabackpack.org to download a brochure and click the elementary school locations to view them via satellite. We are a part of His mission for others.

Serving together,

Timothy DeTellis Timothy@newmissions.org



Health Center Dedication

Dear Friends of New Missions:

On June 9th, New Missions in the Dominican Republic celebrated the completion of the Community Health Center with a dedication service. We were honored by the presence of community officials, the building contractor, church leaders, and teachers from our New Missions schools. Also, two teams of short-term missionaries from Mississippi and Florida were with us. What a wonderful evening of celebrating God's vision for New Missions in Sosua.

The mayor of Sosua, Vladimir Cespedes, spoke words of encouragement and expressed the community's gratitude for New Missions' care and concern for the people of Sosua. For me, a special time of the dedication was the participation of all the ministries of New Missions. Members from the English speaking church sang and prepared the food, a member of the Spanish church read a passage from the book of Psalms, the director of the New Missions schools shared her excitement with the additional care that would be afforded the school children, and members of the short-term team assisted with serving the food and gave the closing prayer.

We are focused on sharing the good news and leading others to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This Health Center will be the epic center of our ministry in the Dominican Republic; people will come from all around to attend health seminars, receive medical attention, and discover that Jesus is the Great Physician.



Students from our Dominican schools will benefit greatly from access to medical care at the Community Health Center.



Dresses for Haiti

"If anyone would have ever told me I would go to Haiti and want to go again, I wouldn't have believed it," said Barbara Jo Metzler of Pennsylvania. Now she's been five times and even started a project called *Just a Little Smile*, which provides dresses for Haitian women.

"After my first visit to Haiti in 2002, my heart went out to the women. I noticed their dresses were worn thin. I prayed for a few weeks about what I could do; the Lord spoke to me saying, 'what woman doesn't like a pretty dress?"

To be sure this was the Lord speaking, Barbara Jo asked Him to lay it on another woman's heart and began to pray from October through February. Then at a sweetheart banquet in February 2003, Barbara Jo sat at a dinner table with friend Linda Allen who said that she had an extra week's vacation and would like to go on what would be her first mission trip. Barbara Jo's "antennae" immediately went up and soon after, the two were making plans for a trip to Haiti.

"I was excited," said Barbara Jo. "And that's when the project name *Just a Little Smile* came to me. It came, just like that."

For the inaugural year of *Just a Little Smile*, the women collected dresses through announcements in their church bulletins and by approaching area consignment shops. Linda also had the idea to take tote bags to Haiti so the people could use them for carrying rice and other food.

As God would have it, Barbara Jo first visited Haiti in 2002. Since then, more than 200 dresses have been given to the women every year. It also resulted in Linda Allen's first mission trip to Haiti becoming her fourth! This year in 2007, a team of nine ladies brought 17 suitcases loaded with 150 dresses, tote bags, school supplies and gifts. They also raised \$1,500 for the purchase of two tons of rice for their team and future teams to distribute at dry feedings.

"Giving out the dresses is so much fun," said Barbara Jo. "We watch the

women's faces light up, see some of them point



A young Haitian woman models her new dress.

Barbara Jo Metzler (left) with Madam Bolo and Linda Allen.

to a particular dress that catches their eye, then some women go put on their dress and come back to show us. We put a smile on their faces and let them know we care about their spiritual and basic needs."

Barbara Jo said the trip had a perfect ending with a visit to see Madam Bolo, an 83-year-old blind woman in the village of Obrey. "Each year we usually sing to Madam Bolo. This year, three of us took rice to her. I also gave her my necklace. She could feel what it was and tucked it in her dress to protect it. While walking back to the New Missions campus, six Haitian children followed us and began singing the hymn *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*. They were amazed when we recognized the tune and started singing along with them. They caught up to us, and held our hands as we walked. What a perfect ending to the trip." –*Terri Starcher*



Back row L-R: June Schreiber, Carol Fritz, Bettye Geiger and Wendy Meyers.

Front row L-R: Barbara Jo Metzler, Linda Allen,
Joanne Swinehart, Lin Good and Lucie Myre.

Health Center Dedication – Continued from page 1

The Community Health Center is the most beautiful building that we have at New Missions. From an architectural standpoint, the high ceilings and spacious educational space provide an outstanding environment for us to serve those on the North Coast of the Dominican Republic.

While this service marked the completion of the building, for me it was as though we have been handed the baton in a relay race. In I Corinthians 9:24-27 Paul compares the Christian life to athletes running a race. Many people have been working toward the completion of the building, now the race is not over, it enters the next level. Please continue to pray that we run the race that God has laid out for us in ministering to Sosua through health education, medical mission teams, and disaster relief. —*John Hanley*



Our school director for seven years, Gloria Ruviera, gave her appropriate remarks at the dedication service.

God's Provision

During the Community Health Center dedication service, plaque awards were given to the contractor and subcontractors. Also, plaques were on hand for those Christians who financially gave to build rooms at the Health Center. John Hanley's wife, Melissa, prepared a Friends of the Health Center thank you journal with the names of those who contributed to the Health Center. I thank God the Health Center is paid for in full and we will trust Him to meet the needs of our operating budget. —*Jeanne DeTellis*



Jeanne DeTellis, Timothy DeTellis and Pastor George DeTellis enjoyed a time of celebration together during the dedication service.



Our lobby has a 22-foot high ceiling with artwork in a spacious, pleasant environment for seminars on health issues. Education is a focus of the health center.

The kitchen will be a favorite place for staff members to use as a break room. In this photo is Jeanne DeTellis with a friend and member of New Life Church,
Lola-Barbara Harvey and John Hanley, our
Health Center Administrator.

Each exam room is attractively furnished, with light and air to give comfort to those who are receiving care.

Contentment Matters

What do you want most? What do you not have? Often what we lack is what we want. At least that is what we think. We lock our minds on the thought that we are lacking, when the question is are we content?

"Everyday's a good day" is the phrase that my fatherin-law would say when he arrived home after work. He had a 43-year career with Publix Grocery Stores and when he retired as a district manager he was overseeing more than 20 stores. I am sure that he had stressful days. There

were also many days of celebration as a new store opened or a sales record was broken. He knew how to end the day with contentment. Recently I was attending a men's breakfast meeting when we were asked what we appreciate most about our fathers? A high school student was sitting next to his dad and said, "I appreciate that when my father comes home

I can never tell if he had a good day or a bad day." Contentment keeps us truly satisfied.

The fact is we should not become complacent in our lives. We need to stay aware of potential dangers and threats while being open to opportunities for growth. Within our life journeys, maintaining a heart of contentment brings a deeper peace and joy. "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your

souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

Has something ever gone so well for you, but others did not share in your joy? Why is it that others do not always celebrate with you? Maybe they think they have nothing to celebrate for themselves.

Without contentment it is difficult to be glad for another's joy. When you are empty it is hard to share what you don't have. The secret of contentment is the

realization that life is a gift, not a right. "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we carry nothing out." 1 Timothy 6:6&7

In my office I have on the wall a photograph of a Haitian fisherman in his dug-out canoe just off shore from a fishing village located on a barrier island. The image promotes a very primitive setting in the poorest

country in the Western hemisphere. Can I say, "I have enough?" Can I believe that only God brings opportunity? "For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God." 1 Corinthians 11:12 Do I walk in faith for His provision each day? The photograph reminds me that contentment matters. To give God the burdens of our everyday life and walk in peace, to live in Christ, this is where true contentment is found. Where is your contentment? –*Timothy DeTellis*

Together, we are on a mission, God's mission, for His glory. "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10 While I was in the Dominican Republic for the dedication of the Health Center I saw how God's hand has been upon our ministry. We are touching many lives. We serve an awesome God.

Serving together,

Timothy DeTellis

Timothy@newmissions.org





Remember the Haitian Faces

Dear Friends of New Missions:

"When I visited Haiti for the first time two years ago, I fell in love with it. I can't change the world by myself, but I can help change 44 square miles in Haiti," said Scott Ryan, a speaker with Crossroads Worldwide based in Shelby, North Carolina. "It's part of my call as a believer not only to preach the gospel, but also to make sure others have a right to life. I'm a huge U2 fan and I agree with [lead singer] Bono that where you live should not decide whether you live or die."

This summer, Scott led a team of 10 college students from Florida, Kentucky, Virginia and North Carolina to Haiti for seven days. For most, it was their first mission trip to a third world country.

"This summer's trip was a most efficient trip! We did a lot," said Scott. "We also met and teamed up with a group of 24 people from Arizona."



From left to right: (back row) Scott Ryan, Marcus Milbourne, David Edwards, Matt A. Kelley, Justin Brock; (front row) Holly Haynes, Meghan Gillis, Daphne Meeks, Katie Freitag and Sara Terry.

The teams covered the gamut from school uniforms distribution, administrative work in the medical clinic, village ministry, distribution of toys, clothing, hygiene items and school supplies, maintenance on vehicles and building a wooden footbridge. —continued on page 2





One small story of hope in the bigger picture for the Haitian people is about a group of four boys in the village of Ti Boukon. Scott's team gave one of the boys a soccer ball and yet it was another boy who said, "Thank you, Jesus." The team learned through Charlie DeTellis translating that the boy who said thank you had been praying to Jesus for a soccer ball. He said thank you yet he was not the one directly given the ball. What is striking is the boy recognized Jesus was at work.

Says Scott, "New Missions is very efficient at what they do. Obviously, the Haitian people are getting served, but the mission can survive without Americans coming every two weeks. The short term missions work is really for the people who go—to change them—how they view the world, preach the gospel, pray, and spend their money. I tell the team to remember what we saw, to remember the faces and to tell others the story of the Haitian people." —Terri Starcher

Trying out the footbridge for the first time!

Love Your Mission: Update from Haiti

It's not about the buildings, but the people that we care for in the buildings. At the main mission campus in Haiti, we have replaced old wooden doors with metal doors in our clinic, office, and school buildings. Currently, we are making additional elementary school repairs at Ti Rivierre, LaSalle, Bord Mer, Santo, Flonc, and at the High School campus. We are also making 40 school benches. The needs vary among school toilets, school kitchens, roof work, and fencing. In addition, we are also providing some road work to various schools like LaSalle and Ti Rivierre. Your special part makes the difference in the ongoing efforts to serve those that God has placed in front of us. Thank you for loving your mission and helping us continue to lead with excellence. *–Charlie DeTellis*



The New Missions Ti Rivierre elementary school has received several repairs and updates such as new doors and wood paneling.

Painting the building is next on the list.



The first building at New Missions, commonly called the U-shape building, was home to our office, clinic, and missionary housing.

This building is receiving a new roof and upgrades.

Our Baseball Field

Baseball is America's pastime. The favorite sport of the Latino countries of Central and South America is soccer, called football. But, not so in the Dominican Republic. Here, it is baseball. While a missionary in Haiti, soccer was virtually the only sport played. The children and youth in Haiti were poor; therefore, every imaginable homemade ball was pressed into use. Whenever the youth got their hands on any ball, they began kicking it. When in the United States, we shopped for soccer balls. It was the favorite gift of a Haitian.

Now, here in the Dominican Republic, we are finishing our baseball field. A welder, Alberto Carlos Disla, who has received a large amount of work from us over the years, was recently given the contract to install a backstop for our baseball field. The backstop is a chain-link fencing that keeps a foul ball from going out of

the area. As a missionary for the past 25 years, I have been involved in all kinds of construction – buildings of a different nature, walkways, ironwork, etc. When I heard that the contractor had begun his work, which was well underway, I rushed to the construction site. I was amazed! The work being done was the best work I had ever seen in my life. The youth of Sosua are going to have a great baseball field. –*Pastor George DeTellis*



Sports evangelism works. In the Dominican Republic, the youth and children love baseball. Whenever a game starts, the crowd assembles and a new opportunity to witness and share the gospel begins.

David P. Dean and his wife Betsy, along with their two children Hannah and Alex, organized a team from Huntington, Indiana, which brought baseball supplies including catchers gear, baseball gloves, bats, and batter's helmets to the Dominican Republic.

Pastor George & Jeanne DeTellis rejoice in the work taking place at New Missions in the Dominican Republic. Together, they enjoyed time with the visiting teams during July 16-23.

Where is the Power of God?

When we think of the power of God, naturally, we first think of creation. The universe was always huge in the minds of believers. "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows his handiwork." Psalm 19:1 For thousands of vears it was believed that the earth was the center of the universe and surely the center of our solar system. With the naked eye, it appeared that the sun, the other planets and all the stars rotated around the earth. It was not until great scientists, such as Galileo, that it was proven that, in fact, our sun was at the center of our solar system, and the earth rotated around the sun. Now, with great telescopes placed in orbit beyond the earth's atmosphere, the size and the complexity of the universe has become known. Now scientists are able to number billions of galaxies, each containing billions of stars. Only in the last few dozen years have we come to appreciate the greatness of God's creation. From Scripture, we receive the spiritual dimension of creation. God said, "and it was so." Genesis 1:3

In the Scriptures, there are classical examples of God's power. One of them is the deliverance of Israel from the Pharaoh of Egypt, and the escape through the waters of the Red Sea. As a family clan, Jacob went to Egypt to see again his son whom he thought was dead. His son Joseph had become a high-ranking official in the government of Egypt. Also, this was a time of wide spread famine and Jacob went to Egypt seeking food to preserve his family. Four hundred years passed – this family became a nation of over a million people. And, of course, Pharaoh's came and went. Where once they were a favored people – now they were feared

and enslaved. The cry was, "let my people go," Moses, the new leader of the Israelites demanded. Pharaoh refused. One night called the Passover, each family in Egypt lost their first born son. The Israelites entered their homes with blood sprinkled on the door posts and lintels. The word was given and the entire nation fled Egypt. They came to the Red Sea and found an impossible situation – the sea before them and Pharaoh's army behind. Only God could deliver. "By God's mighty power, they were delivered." Deuteronomy 4:37 Moses smote the waters – the Israelites escaped. When the armies of Pharaoh were in the middle of the sea, Moses smote the waters again. Now, they came together, destroying the Egyptian army.

Many other examples of God's power are given in Scripture. It is only possible for me to mention a few, because of the lack of space to write. The Old Testament prophets received power. Samson, a great example of physical power resting on a man. Elijah, calling fire from heaven. Elisha, healing the widow's son.

The power of God rested on Jesus. He healed the sick, cast out demons, walked on water, stilled the storm. His entire life was filled with the demonstration of the power of God, possibly culminating in calling Lazarus forth from the dead.

The power of God brought the New Testament church to life. The Holy Spirit baptized the believers and in Acts 1:8, "They received power when the Holy Spirit came upon them." To this day, the work of God is accomplished "not by might, not by natural abilities, but by the Holy Spirit." Zechariah 4:6

All of these are great, and yet there is a greater demonstration of the power of

God. 1 Corinthians 1:18 says, "The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God." Every example of the power of God is dwarfed by the cross. The message of the cross is pardon, mercy and love.

A young woman was involved in a violent crime and was sentenced to death by lethal injection. During the long time waiting for her day of execution, the woman came to faith in Jesus Christ. Her life was dramatically changed. She had a strong positive ministry to the other inmates. Even the prison officials commented what a wonderful woman she was. When the day of her execution came near, many Christian leaders petitioned the governor, asking for a reduction of her sentence; men like Jerry Falwell, the Pope in Rome, and also Billy Graham. The Christian world waited. The night of her execution, prayer vigils were held. In the middle of the night, the appointed moment came, and the young woman went home to be with the Lord.

How different with God. We were all under the penalty of sin, which is death. God did not reduce our sentence. He gave us a full pardon. Christ Jesus died in our place. Now, we are free. We are justified – we are as if we had never sinned. The love of God is demonstrated on the cross. God's love is the greatest power. He loves us. He changes us. He makes us His children. We as believers often want to demonstrate the power of God. The greatest thing we can do is genuinely tell someone that we love them and bring to them the message of the cross. The message of the cross . . . it is the Power of God. -Pastor George DeTellis

The call of a missionary is based upon service. As we live each day, on our mission field, wherever we are, we are called to shine. Jesus said in Matthew 5:16 "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Today, you are a missionary, a witness, called by God to make a difference. Shine for Him!

Serving together,

Time the De Tallie

Timothy DeTellis Timothy@newmissions.org

P.S. I encourage you to view our videos page at newmissions.org and check out the "On A Mission" project – watch it and then share it with your friends.





Backpack Campaign

Dear Friends of New Missions:

The backpack project is one way you can help to get students back to school. Many of our families, both in Haiti and the Dominican Republic are living a daily life of survival. Their network is God, the mission and you, and hopefully a few family members. Many of the students are living with a single mom or with another relative. The students have the desire, energy and hope to learn and to see the dream of their future come to pass.

When we first began in Haiti, we would get excited about the first day of school. We would have special food prepared for the children. The school classrooms were all prepared. The books were there. The teachers were hired and present. But the students did not all come. In fact, the first weeks, we probably had 50 percent attendance. We were disappointed and asked why? "I am not ready," was the answer. For us, we could never understand how the students could not be ready to go back to school. They had all summer to prepare. It was beyond our imagination or understanding.

When you are poor, you still have something inside of you called 'pride'. And the poor students wanted to have at least new socks and new shoes. The mission provided the uniform. Now as the years have gone by, the mission in Haiti is stronger with hundreds of people employed, and thousands of students blessed with sponsorship, and the children can come to school, 'ready', on the first day of school.

I can remember sending my four children back to school. It was two or three new outfits, and hopefully I found them on a clearance rack. I remember when I was a student, and my mother gave me \$10 to go shopping for back to school clothes. Back then, on Washington Street in Boston, at a store called Neisner's, you could buy 100% wool skirts, two for \$5. Now in our time, stores are full of back to school clothes and back to school supplies. I wonder how much is enough for our students. It seems that in America, everywhere, there is too much - whether it is food portions or closets bulging with clothes.

Thank you for your offerings that have helped the mission get ready for school. In the Dominican Republic, we have had 8 buildings painted. In Haiti, Charlie is never finished, always making new school benches, and always building and repairing. He has a student population of 8000. We see the smile of a child. We know God is at work. Together, we join with God to touch a child, to give students the opportunity to see their lives changed. Thanks for helping us give the students a backpack. *–Jeanne DeTellis*



Pastor Paula Rodriguez, from New Jersey, on the August team to the DR. Pastor Paula is Dominican from a Spanish-speaking church and her team was a great blessing in the DR.





My Impossible List

How will New Missions find sponsors for the children in our schools? That is our daily challenge. Why? When we enroll a child in the New Missions program, we make a commitment to educate that child from the time that they are registered to the time that they graduate; with or without a sponsor. Our pledge of commitment to the children in our schools requires consistent funding from our current sponsors. If we do not find sponsors for the children already enrolled then we cannot reach out to more children.

As our mission has grown, the need for child sponsors has increased. We have utilized multiple ways to find sponsors: speaking at churches, volunteer representatives, speakers, and comedians. We have seen God move in these avenues.

Recently, I was at a luncheon with some other ministry leaders and the pastor shared about journaling. I personally journal every day and I began to take notice to what he said. He mentioned that he had an impossible list. This was the list that he made to see God do the impossible so no man could boast. Immediately after this luncheon, in the back of my journal I made my impossible list and the number two item was radio.

I wanted to launch a one-minute radio feature, but had no previous experience. The show was not produced, yet, I believed that God could do the impossible. Now, God has opened a new door; radio. We were told that the expectation for response would be 50 radio stations in three months. God surprised us and 392 radio stations have agreed to broadcast the radio feature: "Family Comedy Minute" after only one month. This new feature could open the doors for us to introduce others to the ministry of New Missions by hosting comedy concerts across the United States.

God is in control. We place our needs at His feet and ask for Him to provide. My heart aches when I see photos at our office of children that do not have a sponsor. Each unsponsored child represents countless others that are not able to attend school or hear the saving message of Jesus. Continue to pray with us for God's will to be done in opening the doors for us to find child sponsors. Please let us know if you hear the family comedy minute in your area. With God, all things are possible. May we continue to believe.

-Timothy DeTellis

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Radio station locations for September 2007. 392 Christian radio stations have agreed to broadcast the one-minute feature for free.

A Comedian On A Mission

Christian comedian, Mike Williams, has been to Haiti three times and to the Dominican Republic 15 times with his most recent summer visit to the D.R. breaking a record by leading three teams totaling 88 people over a two-week period. The mission trips began for Mike eight years ago when he saw firsthand what New Missions was doing.

"I'm a skeptic," admits Mike. "I sponsor kids from all over and I want to know where the money is going. It was an eye-opener for me to see the work New Missions was doing for \$30 a month. Wow! I was amazed there were actual buildings designed and built for schools with real blackboards, desks and school uniforms! Since New Missions is so centralized, they are able to service the people at a higher level."

While comedy doesn't translate well in other cultures, Mike serves the Dominican people in a wide variety of other ways. The three teams that just visited were very busy with distribution of rice, reading glasses, clothing, school supplies, musical instruments, baseball bats, balls and gloves, 600 stuffed animals and shoes.

"There is a big need for shoes," says Mike. "On this trip, we brought approximately 300 pairs of new and used shoes. We go to the villages, get down on the ground and start fitting people with shoes."



"Getting close to the work is what I like best." says Mike Williams as he walks with new friends while serving in the Dominican Republic.

Mike recalled a past visit to the D.R. when a very old man wearing shredded clothes and no shoes was standing back watching and smiling as kids were lined up being fitted with shoes. By the time Mike noticed the man, the team had no more shoes. Mike asked the team to double check for any shoes. As God would have it, there was, in fact, one remaining pair of ladies white Reebok tennis shoes. Mike got down on the ground and helped the man with dusty, dirty, cracked feet into the shoes. They were a perfect fit! The man smiled with tears running down his face. He hugged Mike repeating, "Gracias, Señor! Gracias, Señor!" "As a comedian, I experience a 'high' performing for crowds," said



Gina Craig from Ridgecrest Baptist in Madison, Mississippi shared the joy of giving shoes on her mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

Mike. "But I experience God when I get down on the ground and put shoes on someone's dirty feet."

Evidently, students share the same experience. Mike says the exposure to a third world country "rocks their world." After trips, he receives letters and emails from parents thanking him. The letters say you changed my child.... and my child used to be....



Mike Williams performing live at the Laugh All Night comedy concert where he personally shares about his involvement with New Missions.

Mike says experiencing someone hugging you and smiling through tears of thankfulness are the events that change your life. There's no comparison.

Leadership Tree

What kind of tree are you planting today? When it comes to our personal leadership, we are sowing seed. Each day, we are planting. Making deposits in the lives of those around us. I'm sure people have made investments in you. I remember my youth group leader Eileen Cox. She taught me how to downhill ski, swim, and most of all, she was on my case as a teenager and taught me not to take the Lord's name in vain. Then in college, I remember Dr. Eugene Swearingen who authored the book, "Success and Beyond: 50 Keys". He was a man of God and successful in business. He passed away in 2000, and I

often refer to his book. He was very influential in helping me stand tall. He was a very short guy. He always stressed - "go the extra mile." He believed in living a life of significance. In the Bible, the second chapter of the book of Timothy has much to share on the subject of leadership. "Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus." –Timothy 2:3

When you hear the word

leadership, what do you think of? I think of someone that has a strong sense of direction and leading the way for others. They also remain humble on their journey. "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6

Parenting is a form of leadership. If you have children, you are leaving a legacy in the way your child is raised. If you are not your child's greatest fan, who will be? Or maybe the question should be: what will be? Ultimately, as Christians we know the greatest gift we can give to our children is to lead them in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Recently our office received a letter from a child sponsor who had made the request to add in her will that her sponsor child be supported through graduation. Wow, what a legacy. This sponsor saw the value of leadership and looked ahead to plan in the event of her passing. "Leadership gains authority and respect when the voiceless poor are treated fairly." Proverbs 29:14

Jesus lived a life of servant leadership. He came to serve. He devoted himself to investing in others. He

> sacrificed his own desires for a greater cause. He knew that people would reject him, yet he stayed focused on his calling. He helped others even without

appreciation. He led by example. He spoke out and listened to the broken hearted. He knew where he was going. "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life Randy Driggers

as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45 Great leaders serve. They meet a need. They solve problems.

A dear friend of mine, Randy Driggers, enjoys outdoor photography. He recently found a special object to capture on film. An eagle's nest was perched on a tree. The unique factor was that the tree was located in the middle of a cemetery. Live your life for God. Surrender to Him. He will help you soar. Our earthly lives are temporary. Let's make today count for eternity. -Timothy DeTellis

Praise the Lord today. "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise - the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:15&16 You may not be in Haiti or the Dominican Republic today, but you can do good where you are planted: on the job, at school, and at home. Here at New Missions, we proclaim that Jesus is Lord and we share that message to those we serve.

Serving together,

Timothy DeTellis

Timothy@newmissions.org

P.S. Do you have a photo of you and your sponsor child? Email us your photo to photo@newmissions.org



The Harvest

Dear Friends of New Missions:

Our twenty churches in Haiti are of vital concern to us. We have come to Haiti to do a spiritual work. Each month there is a pastors and school directors meeting. The meeting consists of a spiritual devotional time and then church and school affairs are discussed. The High School director and the Bible College director also attend the meeting. It is a rich time of fellowship. If our schools were not Christian, I would walk away from Haiti. We want to do a work that will last for eternity. One of the best aspects of our mission, which I appreciate, is when I see a teacher, teaching the children a Bible lesson. We all need to do our part with reaching the lost for Christ. We also need to be involved with discipling.

I usually don't announce to a Haitian pastor if I am coming to visit his church.



The churches in Haiti are the back-bone to our schools. Our purpose is to preach the saving message of Jesus Christ. First we start a church, then we build a Christian school. We focus on child discipleship – starting with children in pre-school and growing them to be Christian leaders through High School, Bible College and Business School.

I just show up, unexpectedly. I also tell them, this is how Christ will return, unexpectedly. I do this, because I always need to inspect the churches and schools from time to time. I always look at the physical aspects of the buildings and grounds. It bothers me when a building is inadequate or is in need of repair. This is the case of our school and church in Lafferony. While visiting this church, I became outright angry. I began crying because this location needs a bigger building. I know one day, we will be bringing our construction crew to Lafferony. They need a bigger church and school building.

I also look for the spiritual life of a church. It means everything to me to see a full church and see the people participating in the service. This month, the visiting team visited Pastor Gilles' church in Brache, in the evening. At the end, an altar call was given for anyone who needed prayer or salvation. People don't always respond to altar calls, even in Haiti. However, that night the altar was full of young boys who wanted to become saved. Everybody was full of joy, the pastor, the missionaries, the angels in heaven, and the boys who came to faith.

I have learned to accept opposition to the work in Haiti. There is never a reason for the opposition. Some people will always criticize you for whatever you do. When opposition comes, we go to the Lord with the battle. I don't like to fight. I would prefer to be a farmer or a fisherman. Although, we are living in a world of conflict, we are called to fight the good fight of faith. We are called to stand our ground. We need to always find our strength in Christ alone. The work continues to grow. -continued on page 2

CHURCHES IN HAITI

On the Leogane Plain in Haiti, New Missions has 20 churches. Our weekly attendance at all 20 churches combined is over 5,000. Each Church has a Sunday school program. Each January all the churches come together for our annual Church conference.



The Harvest – Continued from page 1

A very commonly asked question is: are we seeing results for our efforts? We are seeing a great harvest in Haiti. The Haitians encourage me. I need to draw close to God each day. I need His power, love and Spirit in my life. I can become easily discouraged without drawing close to God. "Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?" James 2:5 The Haitian Christians are rich in faith. Often, it is the only thing the Haitians have. Most are in church several times a week. A man in the United States recently told me that nobody has any convictions these days. I told him that I have convictions and I base my convictions from the Bible. As believers, we need to have convictions to live by. I believe because I want to be saved. I want to receive the reward of eternal life. That is what it is all about. It is never about our works by which we are saved. "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11:6 God has a good plan for our lives. God loves us and is looking to bring us back to Himself in a deeper relationship. We can all have God's peace, love, and forgiveness. -Charlie DeTellis

Our churches in Haiti are shining the light in darkness by sharing the message: "Haiti hope in God!" where only real joy and refuge are found.

40-Foot Container to Haiti

There are some items that are needed at our mission in Haiti that are not readily available in the country. Some of these items are 400 individual chair-desks for our high school, a commercial stove and freezer, pressure treated lumber, chain-link fencing, and stainless steel kitchen counters. Our plans are to load a forty-foot container in Orlando, Florida, to be shipped to Haiti the middle of November. Two commercial Toro lawnmowers have been donated by Cedar Grove Church in Mifflintown, Pennsylvania. We are excited about this container coming to Haiti with needed supplies. The work in Haiti continues to grow

and blossom. If you are interested in helping with this project, please call our Orlando office at 407-240-4058 and ask for Kathy. Thank you for your help with this effort. —*Charlie DeTellis*

ITEMS NEEDED

400 High School desks

Commercial propane stove and freezer

Pressure treated lumber

Chain link fencing

Water and oil based paint

Stainless steel kitchen counters

Stainless steel pharmacy shelves

Metal roofing



It is time to send a container to Haiti with necessary supplies for our mission. Your financial gift will make it possible for us to purchase the priority items needed.

Teams of Impact

What help can a mission trip bring to the poorest country in the Western hemisphere? More than we can measure. In addition to his ministry of speaking to students, singles and churches across the United States, Brent Gambrell, of Brent Gambrell Ministries, also has a heart for preparing and distributing backpacks of supplies to the Haitian students enrolled in New Missions' schools. In fact, he leads teams of 20-40 people to Haiti four times a year.

On his most recent trip this summer, his office staff joined him for what was their first trip to Haiti. And what a life-changing experience it was for Whitney King, missions director for Brent Gambrell Ministries.

"I've been to so many Christian summer camps growing up, but visiting Haiti was the most amazing experience I've ever had. The impact has caused me to make changes in my life," says Whitney.

After looking into the eyes of the Haitians, Whitney more clearly knows how much God has blessed her. She recounted some alone time in Haiti where she was wrestling with a range of emotions, from anger to compassion. She asked God why some people live in such poverty. She hurt for the Haitian people, and wrestled with the unfairness of it all. This sparked her to begin asking where she should draw the line with luxuries in her own life.

"I grew up as a preacher's kid, but this was my first mission trip out of the country. I had so many fears—of flying, of leaving my husband and three young boys, of the tarantulas I knew would be there, but God's protection was very evident. I felt safe," said Whitney. "God did something in me. By the end of the week, I realized I hadn't worried about my family, and when I saw a tarantula it was no big deal with 'oh look, another tarantula."

The team of 43 people that Whitney was part of participated in first-aid booths in the villages, two days of vacation Bible school, and of course distribution of the backpacks. She was also able to spend time with her sponsored child, which was one of the highlights of her trip. But the biggest highlight of the trip was one of the backpack distributions where God showed up big.

Carrying 48 loaded backpacks, the team walked along the beach to a small village, but upon their arrival they found the village empty. It was a fishing village and evidently, the residents had gone inland for the day. Before walking back to the New Missions compound, several Haitians from the nearby village of Bordmer had followed the team.

Charlie DeTellis felt moved that the team needed to stop and hold church right on the beach. So they did. Songs were sung in Creole and English, and Brent gave the message with a Haitian translating. There were 49 Haitians and 17 professions of faith. But that's not the only amazing part...

There were 49 Haitians, but only 48 backpacks. The team was one backpack short. Brent had the team count the backpacks again. Still 48. "Count them again," said Brent. Three or four people were counting and all still came up with 48. The Haitians were lined up in groups of 10. Still 49 people. Team members proceeded to pray over the backpacks with the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand clearly in mind. They prayed, "...God, you've done this before and you can do this again..." After praying, several team members counted again and there were 50 backpacks! Just like with the disciples, there was more than enough.

"We prayed expectantly there on the beach," said Whitney. "I don't think we see this very often in America because we don't pray with that kind of expectancy."

This experience would surely be a trip highlight for anyone. Says Whitney, "I have an incredible marriage and three wonderful children, but I fell in love with the Haitian people. It hurt my heart to come back home." –*Terri Starcher*

Top photo: Suitcases of supplies are lined up at the New Missions compound ready to be placed into backpacks.

2nd photo: A group of Haitians gathers as Brent Gambrell shares the Gospel message.

3rd photo: From left: Brent Gambrell Ministries office staffers Missy Wilson with Rachelle, Kelly Mills with Wednel and Whitney King with Schnaider.

Bottom photo: Whitney King's sponsored child, Schnaider, holding a picture of Whitney's three boys.



The God In Me Is A Young God... And He's Keeping Me Alive

We are blessed beyond measure. "Now, we are the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be." Jesus told His disciples, the Holy Spirit is with you and He shall be in you. (John 14:17) Jesus, in John 14, comforted His disciples. He told them that He would be leaving them. They were dismayed. He went on to tell them that He would send the Holy Spirit, to comfort them and that He, the Holy Spirit, would always be with them.

In the wilderness, the Israelites had the presence of God with them, in the tabernacle. It was a portable tent that was put up whenever the Israelites moved through the desert. Soloman later built a beautiful temple in Jerusalem. God's presence was powerfully present in the temple. Today, there is no special physical edifice were God dwells. Rather, Paul taught that the individual body of each believer is the temple of God.

The desire to live forever is in the heart of every man. I have eternity in my heart. The first instinct of man is self-preservation, and the greatest fear of man is non-existence. To think that at death man is annihilated is repugnant to our nature. We want to be perpetuated beyond space and time. We have the idea of immortality in our hearts and minds. God's plan for man is to be with Him forever. Jesus said, "Because I live, you will live also." (John 14:19)

"The things which are seen are temporal, the things which are unseen are eternal." When we believed on Jesus, the Holy Spirit came into our lives and we received eternal life. In the Scriptures this is called a new birth, "born again not of the flesh but of the Spirit." (John 3:6) We have a natural body called the outward man. The outward is perishing. And we have an inner spiritual man – the Holy Spirit.

Our present body is prone to sickness, heart disease, cancer, diabetes, cholesterol - these are only a few of the many diseases that now plague man. Perhaps the greatest human ailment is old age. Why do we age – many have asked. And some in science are seeking a way to slow the aging process, and even to reverse it. Our inner man, the Holy Spirit, who lives in us is renewed day by day. (2 Corinthians 4:16) We know from the Scriptures that God is eternal. In my youth, all of the images I saw of God were that of an aging old man. That is not the truth. God is eternally young. The God of the universe lives in me. The God in me is a young God. We know that time is measured by movement. The moon's phases from new moon to full moon takes 28 days. And the earth orbits the sun in approximately 365 days – giving us our year. But God does not live in our solar system. He is greater and exists beyond the stars and beyond time. He is eternally young. Although my body is getting old, the Spirit within me is young.

The body is sacred. 1 Corinthians 6:19. What we do in our body affects the Spirit within us. If we lie, steal or hurt others the spirit is grieved. Paul in 1 Corinthians 3:16 says that a believer cannot be united physically with a

prostitute. To do so will hurt the Spirit. Our body and the Spirit interact with each other. Likewise, the Spirit acts on our outer man – helping us to think, choose, plan and control our actions. Vision and passion for work comes from the Spirit. Then, too, He works His nature in us, filling us with love, peace, joy, gentleness, and meekness. Also the Spirit works in our body to bring soundness, healing and longevity. A wonderful example of the life of the Spirit is in 2 Kings 13: 20, 21. Bands of Moabites came into the land of Palestine. Some Israelites were in the process of buying a man. Of necessity, they had to leave in a hurry. The tomb of Elisha, the prophet of God, was nearby – they placed the dead man in Elisha's tomb. When the dead man came in touch with Elisha's bones, he came to life. So great was the Spirit of God in Elisha. God the eternal God lives in us. He is young, and He is working in us, keeping us alive and living His life through us.

We love the familiar. We enjoy family, friends and our work. Paul said, "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." (2 Corinthians 5:9) Yes, one day we will go to be with the Lord. It is also natural to love life as we know it here and now. One day we will be in the presence of our Lord. At His right hand there are pleasures forevermore. The pleasures of this life, in God, are great, but they cannot compare with the pleasures that God has stored up for those who love Him. –*Pastor George DeTellis*

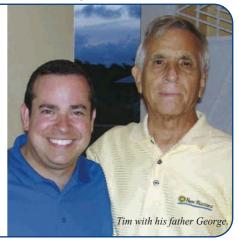
We serve an awesome God! Psalm 66:5 instructs us to say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!" What God does is awesome because of who He is. Only God is awe inspiring, above all else – the word awesome should be reserved for Him. Today, praise the Lord with all your heart, mind, soul and strength for He alone is worthy of our worship.

Serving together,

Timothy DeTellis

Timothy@newmissions.org

P.S. Would you consider providing a one-year High School scholarship for a student without a sponsor? Contact Shirley at our office with any questions.



Modical Jodano

New Missions

When you touch a life, you touch the heart of God.

Medical Outreach

Dear Friends of New Missions:

It is a very exciting time for The Community Health Center ministry in the Dominican Republic. We have had several short-term teams come down with nurses to provide well-check visits for our school children. We had a prosthetist visit, and he was able to provide a new artificial leg for a boy in our school. We are currently working

with three communities that are each at different stages of implementing a Community Health Worker program, and we have hired a local doctor and a receptionist. I am very excited about the Community Health Worker program.

Volunteer community workers are receiving health education training that they will in turn share with their community. Each volunteer has assigned homes that they will visit monthly to share the information and check on the health status of the family. Monthly weight checks of all the children will provide information regarding their nutrition and health and allow us to tailor specific interventions for both families and communities. We hope to build relationships with people that may not invite us into their homes as the church, but will welcome us to discuss the health needs of their family. We will not only be helping them with their health, but demonstrating God's love and introducing the possibility of a changed life. We have been overwhelmed with the gratitude of the communities as they see the potential this program has to improve their lives.

On the horizon, we have two communities waiting to join the program. We plan on expanding the health education programs at the Community Health Center to include seminars in both English and Spanish. October 19th, we had our first training program for local doctors. Several short-term medical mission trips are planned for 2008. I am excited that God is bringing people that allow us to use the Health Center to reach the diverse population of Sosúa. Your prayers and support are making a difference. —John Hanley

Top photo: John Hanley, Sr. checking Michael's prosthetic leg at our Community Health Center.

2nd photo: John Hanley, Director of the Community Health Center in Sosúa, Dominican Republic with Margarita, Nancy, and Margarita, the Health Center's first community volunteers who will be working with their neighbors in Bombita.

Right photo: Kris working in the Pharmacy during her short-term mission trip.

Far right photo: Cassie, a nursing student on a short-term mission trip, assisting with the well-checks of children in the Summer Camp.





2008 Haiti Team Dates

January 5-12
February 2-9
* March 1-8
April 5-12
May 3-10
June 7-14
* June 29-July 5
* August 2-9
September 6-13
October 4-11
* November 22-29

2008 Dominican Republic Team Dates

* December 6-13

* February 18-25, 2008 March 24-31, 2008 April 19-27, 2008 * May 3-10, 2008 June 25-30, 2008 July 9-14, 2008 Just 25 - September 1, 20

August 25 - September 1, 2008

* September 6-13, 2008

September 15-22, 2008

October 20-27, 2008

* November 1-8, 2008

* Medical Focus

For more information email trips@newmissions.org



Medical Clinic Programs

- Vaccinations
- De-worming
- Health Education
- Pre-Natal Care
- Post-Natal Care
- Baby Deliveries
- Eye Exams with medical teams
- Dental Visits with medical teams
- Emergency Care

Remember The Sick

What responsibility do we have to remember the sick? Matthew 9:35 says, "Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness." For New Missions, this is our mission. When we first arrived in Haiti, we started a clinic outdoors on a wooden table and began to treat children that were malnourished, had bloated bellies due to worms and dysentery.

Today, in Haiti our medical clinic serves over 1,000 people each month, provides free medical care to all our school children including medicines. We host pre-natal and post-natal care programs and train mid-wives. We are actively delivering vaccinations and de-worming medicines to the



Trina Williams and John Paul from Leogane, Haiti, rejoice after he received his new eyeglasses.

area through our schools and churches.

Without remembering the sick, we would not be the hands of Jesus. In addition, our mission is a central point for emergency care. We transport people to a nearby hospital when critical care is required. The open doors at our medical clinic are the gateway to an open heart to hear the saving message of the Gospel. Our nurse is the wife to one of our pastors and each morning before she opens the clinic at 8am she shares a Bible study with the patients waiting to enter the medical clinic in Haiti.

-Charlie DeTellis



The joy of touching lives through the ministry of medical care is powerful as a patient reads with greater focus and clarity because of her new eyeglasses.



Our school children in Haiti receive free medical care along with de-worming and vaccinations.



Patients receiving their eye examinations at our medical clinic in Haiti express sincere gratitude. "Merci anpil." Thank you very much.

Doctors' Training

When Elizabeth Vasquez signed up to go on a short-term mission trip to the Dominican Republic, she asked her friends coordinating the trip, what she should put down as skills, since she did not feel she had any skills appropriate for the mission field. Elizabeth is an Epidemiologist with a Master Degree in Public Health working in New York, completing her dissertation for her PhD. Little did she know that she had the exact skills we have been looking for to start an outreach to local doctors on the North Coast, providing them access to professionals able to provide seminars on their field of expertise. We were able to invite the local doctors to hear Elizabeth, a Dominican-born, Spanish-speaking, health professional present information pertinent to their local practices.

The physicians enjoyed a wonderful evening of professional camaraderie. While I was talking to one of the physicians, he stated, you never see even five physicians in one room together. He shared that they are rarely able to meet together and share information with one another. He said that a lot of good information was provided during the evening and he was grateful for the opportunity to meet with his colleagues. Not only, did they receive some great information, they had a wonderful Italian dinner to top off the evening. All of the doctors that attended are looking forward to our next gathering. —John Hanley

Top photo: Elizabeth Vasquez sharing with community doctors while on her short-term mission trip.

2nd photo: Dr. De la Cruz and Katherine preparing a gift of sample medications for the local doctors that attended the Health Center's first physician dinner.

3rd photo: Elizabeth Vasquez, Dr. De la Cruz, and Katherine preparing for the evening with the community Doctors. Dr. De la Cruz and Katherine are the first Health Center staff members.

4th photo: Jeanne DeTellis sharing her heart with a group of local doctors from Sosúa.

Below: John Hanley sharing the mission and vision of the Community Health center with local doctors.





Your Life Story

This month, in the United States, we celebrate Thanksgiving. It is a time to come together with family and friends to enjoy a meal and give thanks. What are you thankful for? Here is what I am thankful for.

I was born into a family where my father was a pastor. That made me a preacher's kid. This is all I've ever known. Many people ask, "What was it like being the son of a pastor?" I do not know any other experience. My father has been a pastor my entire life. One difference growing up in the home of a pastor was that in our family, church was a requirement. Dad would

not allow any of his children to skip church. You could sit on the back row, but you had to show up for church.

I remember when I was five years old, we moved from West Boylston, Massachusetts, to Worcester, Massachusetts, to live in the church that my Dad was the pastor of, Calvary Evangelistic Center. We actually lived on the backside of the church where there was an apartment. There was not much privacy for our family. My

room served as the nursery on Sundays and several of my toys found their way home with the church kids. We lived in the church for four years and that brought an interesting experience as our lives were closely tied to the daily activities of the church from Sunday school to mid-week Bible studies. What I remember most about my Dad's church, was that it was on a hill and on the side of the building he placed the words "Jesus Loves You" and as people drove up the hill they saw that proclaiming message. Interesting enough, across the parking lot next to the church was a hospital and we often received phone calls of thanks from patients that would look out their window.

What I admire about that simple message, "Jesus Loves You" is that it is very personal. The very fact is that Jesus loves you, the individual and sent his only son for you! A worship song that I enjoy singing, "Above All", the song writer closes the chorus with the lyrics: "you took the fall and thought of me, above all." Some would say, that's not true, Jesus was thinking

about His heavenly father, above all. Well, the fact is that's not what His Father would want. For God so loved the world that He sent His only son! Why? Because He loves YOU! "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

I am the youngest of eight children. The fact is, prior to me, my mother had seven children and four died. When she found out that she was pregnant, it was not a joyous occasion. Due to past pregnancy risks, she sought the best advice possible in making a decision. At the time, the chief of staff at Boston

Children's Hospital gave her the recommendation for an abortion, and gave her an appointment after they had a consultation. On the way home from that appointment, she was scared and decided that she would not tell anyone. When she arrived home, her heart was so heavy; she called her mother to share the news. After she hung up the phone, little did she know that her eldest son, George Jr., was on the stairwell and overheard the entire phone conversation. He walked

down the stairs that night and went up to his mother and said, "Mommy if you know the baby is going to die, why not let the baby die on its own like the others." The next morning, my mother woke up, called the doctor and canceled the abortion.

I am thankful that I had an advocate. My brother was that someone who spoke up for me, when I could not speak for myself. In your life, has someone spoken for you? Is there someone you have spoken for? Your voice makes a difference. Speak out today and make the life story of someone better because of you. "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy." Proverbs 31:8-9

My story is unique to me. Yours is unique to you. Our lives shape us. We grow through the valley and soar on the mountain top. Where ever life's journey takes you, learn from it. When possible, be a voice of hope and truth. Share the message that Jesus loves you! *—Timothy DeTellis*

How does your church embrace the call of missions? I would personally like to hear from you on what is happening at your church in the area of missions. What is taking place for local, national, and global efforts? I want to join your church in prayer that as 2007 inches toward a close, that your church will continue to be a place of impact and influence in reaching our world with the saving message of hope.

Serving together,

Timothy DeTellis

Timothy@newmissions.org





I Am Praying For You

Dear Friends of New Missions:

"I am praying for you." I am praying. I am praying, because I want you to believe God and I want you to receive what you are asking of God. Your prayer requests written on your mission envelopes come to me each month. I have answered your prayer requests in many places. I always have prayer requests with me at airports and on flights. Wherever I am I enjoy having your prayer requests with me. Wherever I am, I am praying. This month, I have had your prayer requests with me at the MD Anderson Cancer Hospital, while George is receiving cancer treatments. God gives me strength to believe Him for every one of your needs.

When I say that I am praying, I am believing God that your faith will be strengthened. You will look up. You will see the darkness around you, but you will see, by faith, the sunshine of His miracle answer to you. You will feel the pain of the loss, but you will feel the Presence of a strong powerful God who will lift you higher than your pain into a place of resting and leaning on Him. I am praying for you.

I remember prayer requests, and people by name, asking for prayer when their children went off to college, praying for their children to succeed academically in college, praying for their children to find a good position of employment after college, praying for the dating relationship of their children, praying for the marriage of their children, praying for the coming grandchildren. I am praying. Each month, I am strengthened in my faith for you as I hear from you and I hear answers of prayer. I am praying to Someone who not only has ears to hear, but He has all the power to answer perfectly according to His goodness and mercy for your life.

I have a grandson 15 years old that had a head injury in a car accident. I am praying for him. I see the Hand of God in his life. I see the living Holy Spirit in his life. I see steps of miracles in his life. I can remember when he was 9 months old and I was praying that he could lift up one Cheerio (a piece of breakfast cereal) with his fingers. I remember praying that he would walk. Now, he walks, swims, skis, plays the drums, and rides a bicycle. I remember praying that he would talk. Now he loves to talk and he talks about Jesus and he also loves to sing. I am praying for him to succeed academically. He is beginning to read. I may be praying for him until I take my last breath on earth, but I am praying for my grandson.

In the Dominican Republic, we have an early morning prayer meeting on Tuesdays at our big tent in Sosua at 7:00 a.m.

I pray every Tuesday and I focus my prayer, with fasting, to believe God to raise up Dominican leadership for ministry. I am praying for God to send Spanish-speaking ministry people to inspire our Dominican leaders. And I see signs of encouragement that God is answering my prayer. I keep praying. I want to express and pour out my faith in a God who is faithful to

work for us. I love to pray and to feel in touch, to be connected with this powerful present and living God.

In Luke 22:32, Jesus said to Peter, "But I have prayed for you that your faith should not fail." Jesus knew Peter's struggle, but Jesus wanted Peter to be strong in his faith to receive from Him. Jesus prayed for Peter and He is praying for you. He wants you to believe in Him to receive what you need. Be comforted. Be strengthened. Jesus is praying for you.

I am praying for you. -Love, Jeanne DeTellis



Pastor George and Jeanne DeTellis sharing a special moment together.

Packing the Container

Amazingly the 40 foot container going to Haiti filled up very fast. I am thankful to God every aspect of purchasing and loading the container flowed without a glitch. The container is full and has been put on a cargo ship going to Haiti. I visited Cedar Grove Brethren Church in

Pennsylvania and drove a U-haul truck full of valuable equipment and materials to Orlando, Florida. Cedar Grove church is located in a rural farming community. The people are hard working. I was taken back by their love and hospitality. Kathy Apetz in our Orlando office helped with coordinating the purchase of high school desks and other equipment. We were able to rent a large fork lift in Orlando which helped in the loading of this container.



100 school desks for our High School in Haiti were loaded on the 40 foot tractor trailer by Charlie DeTellis.

I see the importance of us sending future containers to Haiti. We like having the local churches and businessmen becoming involved with this project.

I will be returning to Haiti. I live in two worlds with traveling back and forth to Haiti. I love Haiti and the work

there. The Haitians love the mission. We want to run every aspect of the mission in excellence. The High School director will appreciate receiving the new desks. The Santo church will receive a generator, sound system and musical instruments. It was also a learning experience working to purchase supplies. The Orlando office is close to Haiti and is located in a strategic location.

-Charlie DeTellis

Truck Needed for Haiti

We need one additional work truck in Haiti. The truck will be used for transporting visiting teams and supplies. We rent buses for transporting the teams from the airport. We provide our own vehicles for transporting the teams in the Leogane area. It is crucial we have this additional truck. We appreciate your gifts which make this mission possible.

New Missions is your mission. The visiting teams to Haiti are a great inspiration to the work. With the help of God, the mission will keep growing and developing. We thank you for helping our mission run in excellence. All of the glory goes to God alone. We also hope your church has a chance to visit us in Haiti. Thank you so much for your prayers and support.

-Charlie DeTellis

Our visiting mission teams are a vital source for help at our mission.
The transport truck enables us to move supplies and serve our 20 elementary schools and High School in Haiti.



Baseball and iPod a Hit in the DR

David Dean is a Christian comedian based in Indiana who, for the past 15 years, has traveled the United States speaking at Promise Keepers, Youth for Christ events, and other youth and family conferences. Throughout his travel schedule, he also managed to squeeze in eight trips to the Dominican Republic where he enjoys leading mission teams

of primarily teens.

"I would go to the Dominican three or four times a year if I could," said David. "We've developed relationships with the locals and literally have a list of people to go see each time we're there. What the people really desire is for us to spend time with them. They open their doors, pull up a chair and want to talk."

David explained how it's hard for some Americans to grasp just "hanging out" because many times they get involved in performing a task that they miss the mission. But "hanging out" is not the only thing David's teams do while in the DR. This summer's team of 30 brought supplies for distribution, held vacation Bible school and of course played baseball. "One of the neat things about leading large mission teams is that somebody always has a contact or a connection," said David. "This summer, somebody had a contact with Stride Rite shoes and 220 children's shoes were donated."

Another contact resulted in seven bags of baseball gear being donated. Supplies included cleats, pants, helmets, baseballs, bats and catcher's gear!

"Baseball is a great ministry. People just naturally gravitate toward it," said David.

One of our Dominican pastors, Domingo, uses baseball as part of his ministry to reach his people. After a game while everyone is gathered around, Pastor Domingo will explain to the Dominicans that the reason the Americans are there is not



David P. Dean reflects God's love with Ava who is thrilled to receive her new doll and know how much her sponsor loves and prayers for her.

the Dominicans that the reason the Americans are there is not just to play baseball, but to share Christ with them. The Gospel is shared and then everyone holds hands and prays.

David said, "If kids can come to Domingo and say, 'I want in my heart what you have in your heart...' or 'I remember when we played baseball with the Americans...' then we have a reachout for Domingo's ministry."



Our visiting teams are able to touch the lives of our school students through special work projects, church ministry, medical outreach, and sports evangelism. Each hug expresses a deep passion to reach a hurting world with God's love.

In addition to helping the Dominicans and the pastors, David is big on using the mission trips to build the very teenagers who go on the trips. He says many kids come back from the Dominican and begin to consider full time missions work in a third world country. Parents tell David their hopes are for their child's eyes to be opened.

David's own eyes were opened this summer as he watched how an iPod bonded a teen and 21-year-old Arnaldo, who spent the week getting to know the Americans. So small it can fit in a shirt pocket, the iPod amazed Arnaldo. Before returning to the United States, the teens asked Arnaldo what they could do for him. Hesitantly and humbly, Arnaldo told the teens to please forgive him if it sounded greedy, but that he would love to listen to music. Without a second's thought, one of the teens handed over his iPod and recharger saying, "I enjoyed getting to know you. You have such a great heart..." No doubt that's one teen whose eyes were opened as a result of visiting a third world country.

–Terri Starcher

Your Surprise Gift

Do you have a Christmas Eve tradition? One of my favorites is cooking chestnuts. Yes, chestnuts, however, they are not roasted over an open fire. I make them in a microwave. Some Christmas Eve traditions like candle light services, singing carols, and opening one gift the day before Christmas can bring special memories.

Several years ago, I went to the mall with a friend of mine on Christmas Eve. We both knew each other since college and it was a tradition for him to walk the mall the day before Christmas and watch people. As we walked around, you could feel the hustle and bustle. The energy was building for the next day's festivities. We strolled in some stores, looking at clothes and then tested out some gadgets. We didn't buy anything, except for a cup of coffee.

Last year, I did something I never experienced before. I went shopping the day after Thanksgiving for the 6 a.m. opening at a local department store. Truthfully, it was not my idea; it was my wife's and her best friend's idea. I went along because I thought, why not? It sounded like fun! We arrived to the parking lot almost 30 minutes before the doors were going to open and I was amazed at the line of people that were already wrapping

along the side of the store building. They wanted to be the first to find the super sales inside! What's behind those closed doors is what they were seeking.

In recent years, gift cards have become popular. You are able to think of that someone special and give them the purchasing power to buy what they like most at their favorite store or to enjoy their restaurant of choice. Gift cards are nice, yet a wrapped present with a well-placed bow and ribbon truly gives the message that you care. I'm all for gift cards, since you don't have to deal with the returns of items you may not have use for, however, a wrapped present, now that's a great surprise. Or not? Do you like surprise gifts? Unexpected presents are gifts that warm the heart, especially, when you can tell that the gift giver found something that was truly meant for you. When we think of gifts, their purpose is to meet a need and convey appreciation and love to the recipient. Our heavenly Father is the greatest gift giver ever. He knows

our every need and better still, He knows the greatest solutions.

Recently, I was traveling out of state and had a car rental. The day that I was returning home, I had to drive three hours to the airport in time for a 7:30 a.m. flight. Early in the morning, 2:00 a.m. to be exact, I began the journey. Driving in the dark makes me sleepy so I listened to the radio. A worship song came on that caught my ear. The song's lyrics say, "This is the air I breathe, Your Holy Spirit, living in me." Can we truly live without the Holy Spirit in us? Jesus said in John 5:24, "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life." Then Jesus continues to say in John 6:63, "The Spirit gives life;

the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life." Imagine this, a gift not in a box, but in a body. The body of Christ, first came to us as a gift in a manger and then was the ultimate sacrifice on the cross, so that we may receive life. All the stuff we shop for and receive as physical gifts are to comfort our life on earth, hopefully bring a temporary fulfillment, yet our spiritual life is a gift for eternity because of Jesus.

The gift giving from our heavenly Father did not stop with the gift of His one and only son. Jesus left with us the Holy Spirit to be our comforter, our guide, and dwells within us. The Holy Spirit is our surprise gift and meant for you, intentionally. "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you." -John 14:26 Inside of a believer is a surprise gift, the Holy Spirit. We don't have to wait in line or go to a shopping mall to find this amazing gift. Best of all, the gift card has no spending limit! The gift of the Holy Spirit is yours from the moment that you accept Jesus as your personal savior. Live life walking in the Spirit, which means to allow Him, inside of you, to be your spiritual guide, conviction, and counselor. What a gift! Our heavenly Father has given you a gift, made especially for you. -Timothy DeTellis

Merry Christmas! The joy of a personal relationship with Jesus is the greatest gift a human could ever receive. Not religion, but relationship with God through Jesus. In Luke 2:10 it reads: Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people." May your home be filled with His joy this holiday season, no matter how many or how few gifts are under the Christmas tree. Receive the gift that never wears out, Jesus.

Serving together,

Timothy DeTellis

P.S. You are welcome to write your prayer requests on your giving envelope.

