

Letters from Haiti



OCTOBER 2009

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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A Note from Larry

In 2008, I made my first trip to Haiti. I felt I was being called there, but had no idea where it would lead. During this two week trip, I traveled to Cap Haitien to visit Pastor Emmanuel (Manno) Laguerre. At the time, Haiti was an unsafe place. To get to Cap, I had to travel through Port-au-Prince where most of the danger was. While on the plane leaving Haiti, I felt God calling me back to work in Port-au-Prince. I struggled with what God wanted me to do, but the truth was that he was using me to answer a prayer. After a few trips and meeting Dada (Marie Ludalia Simeon), a single woman who was taking care of 8 children in her small home in Ganthier, I began listening to God's calling.

About a year prior to my trips to Haiti, two brothers in Christ and I had established a not-for-profit organization called Servants Gift. Our mission was to help faith based groups fill the gaps in their ministries. This is the vehicle that God is using to help Dada and her now 10 children.

Along the way, God has put wonderful people in my path and has helped me see His plan. Dada is an amazing woman and the kids, who call me Brother Larry, see me as a father figure. I have also made a good friend in John Dieubon. John is a native of Haiti and the founder of Project Papillion. He has been a huge help to me and with Dada's project. John has become a great friend whom I love.

When I introduced my wife, Jean, to the children, she immediately fell in love with all of them. She understands my calling to work for the children of Haiti.



Child Spotlight

Maison D'amour

Maison D'amour (House of Love) is located in Ganthier, Haiti. 10 children live in the house. Rose Bettie is the oldest at 10 years of age and Esther is the youngest at 3 years of age. In between them are Widrine (9), Bermelie (8), Jephthe (7), Jackson (7), Yvelt (5), Wilvenson (4), Ruth (4), and Kerlens (3).

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Servants Gift's first mission trip

Dada's Story

Marie Ludalia Simeon, also known as Dada, was born in Ganthier. Such an area often goes unnoticed by the greater population or the business sectors of Haiti. Because of this, many people, especially the children, suffer. Growing up in such an environment, Dada's prayer was, "Lord, how can you use me to reach out to my community and help advance your kingdom here in Ganthier?"

At a young age, God opened a door for Dada to move to Port-au-Prince to work at a boys' home. While working there, God continued to mold her desire to see more Haitian children receive such help. These boys have since grown up and have become men who are beginning to influence Haiti in great ways. Dada's prayer continued and she often felt that if more children received such help, greater things could be done for Haiti.

Dada began to feel lead to reach out to her community in Ganthier; to establish an orphanage where many children would be able to receive Godly training, education, and proper care. She felt that God had been



equipping her all these years, growing up in Ganthier, seeing firsthand the impact of poverty, and moving to work at the boys' home.

Now as the "mother" to 10 children in her home, she provides them with the love of a family and guides them in learning the love of God. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." Dada's prayer is that she trusts that the God who has begun this good work will bring it into completion.

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress."

James 1:27

Prayer Requests

- The Servants Gift team
- Good health and safety for our kids
- Stability in Haiti
- Our faithful donors and their families
- Dada
- Pastor John and his wife Ruth
- Project Papillon team

Getting Involved

There are several ways to get involved with Servants Gift:

- Child sponsorship
 - For more information contact Nancy Wadhams at wadhams@verizon.net
- Specific project needs
 - 2 more bunk beds
 - 10 school entrance fees
 - Donated frequent flyer miles
 - Large gate for the front of the yard
 - Bedroom for Dada
 - Screens for all windows and doors (by December)
 - 5 ceiling fans (needed by December) for when it is the rainy season and the house has to be closed up
- Monthly financial support
- Be a prayer partner
- To be added to our newsletter mailing list, please send your email and mailing information to Stephanie at steph@jasonmckee.net.

