

Volume 25, No. 1

HEF

Fall 2017

THE *Hope* LIVES ON...



AS WE BEGIN
ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR!

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Matthew 25:40

Dear Friends of Haiti,

There is excitement in many small villages throughout the mountains of southern Haiti as final preparations are made for the beginning of another school year for our 35 HEF schools. Very shortly, some 6,500 school children will attend opening day and will resume their quest for their education, a precious asset that remains a rarity in Haiti. We recognize that all of this is made possible for them because of the generous participation and contributions provided by our donor friends. The Haiti Education Foundation and the children of Haiti thank you for your continued support.

A special event for our HEF supporters is being planned during the month of October. In partnership with First Presbyterian Church of Shreveport and St. Paul's Episcopal, HEF will be hosting a HUG conference on October 27th – 29th in Shreveport, LA. Please join with us as we meet to have fellowship and learn more about HEF's work and future plans.

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www.haitifoundation.org

We also want to inform you of the recent loss of a dear friend and member of our board, Don Miller of Westlake Village, California. His service to HEF and our sister organization, Haiti Healthcare Partners, has been invaluable and he will be greatly missed.

Your prayers for the success of HEF and for the welfare of the children it serves are greatly appreciated.



In Christ,

*Mike Landers
President, HEF*



Mission: The mission of the Haiti Education Foundation is to provide educational opportunities to children in the mountains of southern Haiti.

Goal: To establish an avenue for giving where 100% of contributions go to the need designated by the donor.

Objective: To help Haitians to help themselves.

Operating Budget 2017/2018 School Year

Budget increase due to teacher pay raise to meet government requirement.

\$36,000.00 per month	\$432,000.00
(Amount wired to Haiti for operation of schools)	
\$150.00 per month	\$1,800.00
(Cost of sending and receiving wire transfer)	
Annual Budget.....	\$433,800.00

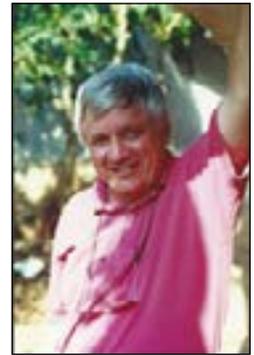
Remembering Don Miller

August 29, 1946 - February 27, 2017

Don Miller served on the Haiti Education Foundation board from 2010 through 2015...but his service to the people of Haiti was born when he made his initial trip to Haiti in 1999. He and his wife, Martha, have been mighty advocates for the cause of Haiti's children, first through the Haiti Education Foundation and later in the formation of Haiti Healthcare Partners. Over the years, Don made nine trips to Grande Colline, Haiti.

Don's great sense of business and ability to envision the "big picture" changed countless lives...not only for the people living in Haiti, but for those of us who have been blessed by his wisdom and encouragement. He is remembered for his brilliant smile, willingness to tackle the challenges that come with working in foreign missions and honest answers. He was a great listener and always willing to engage.

The Haiti Education Foundation is grateful to God for Don's presence on our board and the many years of friendship shared.



A photo of Don in Haiti in 2000.

SHARING THE *Hope*

We are thankful that so many teams have been to Haiti since the first of the year to visit their schools or in search of a school to sponsor: Raleigh Court Presbyterian of Roanoke, VA, The Lechter Family, First Presbyterian Church of Shreveport, St. Paul's Episcopal of Shreveport, Calabash Presbyterian Church, The Crittenden Family, Church of the Good Shepherd of Lake Charles, LA, First Presbyterian Church of San Luis Obispo, CA, City Church of Morgantown, WV, Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church of Fishersville, VA, The Chris Carlisle team, Windy Cove Presbyterian Church of Millboro, VA, and Ozark Mountain Music Fiddlers. Let us help you plan a trip!



David Lechter delivered a supply of dry erase boards and markers to the students in the spring.



Ozark Mountain Music fiddlers sharing music with some of Cherident's musicians.



New benches for the St. Matthias Church thanks to Windy Cove Presbyterian.



Alex Hunter's Eagle project at Hess is a great success...lighting the classrooms!



Members of San Luis Obispo Presbyterian on an exploratory visit.



It's *Time* To **HUG** • 2017

HAITI UNITED GATHERING

By Susan Turbeville

In 2000, the first HUG (Haiti United Gathering) was held in El Dorado, Arkansas. It took place at the First Presbyterian Church and Pere Jean Wilfrid Albert was in attendance. People from all over the United States came and our first Haiti Education Foundation video was premiered. Ten years passed before we planned the next HUG. Following the horrific earthquake in January of 2010, we felt the need to gather everyone together once again. Founder, Frances Landers, passed away just days prior to that conference which was assembled at Ferncliff Camp in Little Rock, AR. We celebrated her life and strengthened our resolve to EDUCATE the children in the mountains of southern Haiti. In 2011, we gathered again at Ferncliff. We focused our attention on funding and transparency in our mission. It was during that meeting that we made some very important decisions about salaries for our teachers and staff. Although difficult, many great practices have resulted from the decisions that were made. In 2013, we changed the location of our HUG to Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church in Fishersville, VA. This was exciting because we were able to visit with many of our friends on the east coast. It was fun to share experiences and memories with so many who have been involved from the very beginning of the Haiti Education Foundation's inception. Because we were brave enough to take HUG to the east coast, we headed west to Westlake Village, California, in 2014. There, Viergela Louis, a student who grew up in one of our HEF funded schools, shared her story and the importance of education in her life. This year, we are very pleased to hold our gathering in Shreveport, Louisiana, to celebrate HUG 2017. The Haiti Education Foundation is most grateful to First Presbyterian Church, Shreveport, and St. Paul's Episcopal for hosting this event. We feel that this is the perfect location because these two Shreveport churches are working together to support the education at St. Matthias preschool and elementary school. Additionally, these churches are providing feeding for the whole campus Kindergarten through Terminal II program at the St. Matthias High School. This model has been ideal in mission travel, communication and in really working with the Cherident community. Their mission teams will share more during the conference. We will also be addressing a hurdle that we have in teacher and staff salaries. The Haitian government has declared that there is a minimum wage of 5,000g/month. In accordance with this law, we feel that we must increase pay to the teachers so that we meet that requirement. With the help of our individual donors and our churches that sponsor specific schools, we know that this challenge can be met. In the meantime, we are asking that our donors continue to spread the word of our mission and keep us in their giving budget.

We hope that you will consider joining us for this time of learning and sharing as we convene HUG 2017!



THE HAITI EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.
invites you to attend



HUG • 2017

HAITI UNITED GATHERING
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

Nou se yon sèl nan Kris

GUEST SPEAKER: GIBSON BIJOU

a young man who grew up in a HEF supported school

OTHER SPECIAL GUESTS INCLUDE:

Pere Frederic Menelas - Priest in St. Matthias Parish in Haiti

Ancy Fils Aime - HEF Liaison in Haiti

Martha Miller - author of *HOPE Personified*

as well as Representative Partners from: Living Waters for the World,
Solar Under the Sun, Haiti Healthcare Partners, and Trinity Hope Feeding Program

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27 • 6:00-8:30PM

First Presbyterian Church - 900 Jordan Street, Shreveport, Louisiana

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 • 9:00AM-3:00PM

St. Paul's Episcopal Church - 275 Southfield Road, Shreveport, Louisiana

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 • 5:30-8:00PM

St. Paul's Episcopal Church - 275 Southfield Road, Shreveport, Louisiana
Red Beans & Rice dinner followed by Martha Miller's one woman play "*Frances Landers*"

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 1ST

Cost \$20/person • includes lunch on Saturday, October 28
(Donations will be accepted for the red beans & rice dinner)

T-shirt will be an additional \$15

REGISTER ONLINE AT: www.haitifoundation.org



HUG • 2017

HAITI UNITED GATHERING

The Haiti Education Foundation, in partnership with First Presbyterian Church of Shreveport and St. Paul's Episcopal Church are excited to announce that HUG 2017 will be held October 27-29 in Shreveport, Louisiana. Registration for this event is available online at www.haitifoundation.org or by filling out the short form below and mailing it (along with your check) to our office address at P.O. Box 10775, El Dorado, AR 71730.

The Gathering will begin on Friday evening with registration at First Presbyterian Church, Shreveport, beginning at 6:00 p.m. We will serve light hors d'oeuvres during a short "Meet and Greet". Special guest speakers for the evening will be Pere Frederic Menelas, priest in charge of St. Matthias Parish, and Martha Abby Miller, author of Hope Personified: Frances Maschal Landers.

Saturday will begin with coffee and donuts at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 8:30. We will present an HEF Update followed by Featured Guest Speaker Girbson Bijou, one of our former HEF student. Members of First Presbyterian and St. Paul's Episcopal will share their experience in sponsoring a school in Haiti. Ancy Fils Aime, HEF Liaison in Haiti, will also participate in the morning's agenda. Representatives from some of our partnering organizations will also make short presentations on their work in Haiti. Chris McRae will speak on Living Waters and Solar Under the Sun, Sara Simineuvc will speak on Haiti Healthcare Partners, and Keith Logan will speak about Trinity Hope Feeding. All of these organizations directly impact our efforts in education. Lunch will be provided at the church and is included in the price of your registration. We also have HUG shirts for sale. A picture of the shirt will be available on our website. All orders must be turned in by October 1, 2017.

Girbson Bijou

We welcome Girbson Bijou to our HUG 2017 conference this year as our special guest speaker. Girbson grew up in Cavanack, Haiti, a small, mountain village in Grande Colline. He is the second of five children... two brothers and two sisters. His parents are farmers. His father was a musician and choir director in St. Matthias Parish. He also worked as the Credit Agent for Floresta in Cherident for many years. Gribson attended



St. Matthias School in Cherident from kindergarten through the Terminal II program. After his graduation from St. Matthias, he studied Electronics Engineering at Faculte' Des Sciences Appliquees in Port-au-Prince. Following his studies there, he was one of twenty-five students chosen from a pool of 400 to attend Nethope Academy Internship Program where he completed advanced training in technology. Following his Nethope training, he was placed at Habitat for Humanity, Haiti, for a 4 month internship; however, he stayed there for 3 years. Today, Girbson works for Food for the Poor in Haiti and also does consulting for other organizations. We are pleased to bring him to this gathering to share his experiences with HEF and tell of the difference education has made in his life.



HUG Registration 2017

\$20.00/person

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

HUG Shirt Order: S M L XL XXL
\$15.00

Sponsorship Opportunities

Bonne Nouvelle, Lebeau	\$664/month	\$7,968/year
St. Jean Baptiste, Moreau	\$904/month	\$10,968/year
St. Barthelemy, Bahot	\$838/month	\$10,056/year

More Ways to Make a Difference...

Our number one need is always *scholarship funding*...this is ongoing, 12 months of every year, as the teachers are paid year round. However, there are always a number of special projects throughout the parishes.

1. Chalkboard and benches are constantly in need of being replaced. The cost of each is \$100.00.
2. Many more schools are in need of new latrines for the students and teachers to use. The cost for each of these is \$3,000.00. They are needed immediately at St. Luc- Bresilienne, Bon Samaritan-Bras de Gauche, St. Jacques-Denard, and Transfiguration-Corps.
3. Construction Projects

We have two schools that are in great need of being rebuilt.

1. St. Matthias High School in Cherident was completely destroyed in the earthquake of 2010. Since that time, the students and teachers have been meeting in a temporary structure. A generous donor has agreed to match all funds that we are able to raise for this \$102,000.00 project. We hope to have the project completed by the first of November 2017.
2. We are also hoping to rebuild St. Andre School in Cavanack. This little elementary school was heavily damaged during Hurricane Matthew last fall. The cost to rebuild this school is \$40,000.00. Our hope is to have this project completed by the end of the year.

Prayer Concerns

Your prayers move mountains! There are several matters in Haiti that need your constant prayers:

1. The leaders of our schools; Pere Fred, Pere Michaud, Pere Goursse, Pere Beauvoire, and Rev. Marie Chery as they oversee the education and spiritual guidance of the children and teachers.
2. Ancy Fils Aime is responsible for our missionaries traveling to Haiti and so much more!
3. Students and teachers as they enjoy the rest of their summer break and then begin the new school year on September 4.
4. The hurricane season will be a mild one for all.
5. That the faith of the people of Haiti will remain strong and they will feel God's presence in their lives.



When purchasing from Amazon.com, please register for AmazonSmile to support the Haiti Education Foundation. A portion of each registered purchase will be donated to HEF...and EVERY donation makes a difference! 

*Currently, we have 29 donors who have made purchases benefitting the Haiti Education Foundation thru the amazonsmile program. To date, we have received \$120.71. If you shop Amazon, please consider joining this program and allowing HEF to be your beneficiary!
It is an easy way to give and these funds are used to educate Haiti's children!*



Hope Personified: Frances Maschal Landers

The Haiti Education Foundation invites you to celebrate at a book signing
Friday, October 27, 2017
in Shreveport, Louisiana

Martha Miller, author, will be signing copies of her book on Friday
and will perform her One woman act:
"Frances Landers" on Saturday, October 28, 2017.

See Page 6 for more details.

THE *Hope* LIVES ON BECAUSE YOU CARE....

Another school year is about to begin...the 36th year of Haiti Education Foundation's commitment to education in the rural mountains of southern Haiti. This is only possible because of your faithful giving! God has more than blessed us as we have grown and given God's children in Haiti an opportunity to be educated. On September 4th, 35 schools will open their doors to over 6,000 students who will start their day with 456 teachers and support staff. As established many years ago, 100% of all donations are used as designated by the donor. Thank you so much for making this possible...Together, we are making a difference!

The Haiti Education Foundation P.O. Box 10775 El Dorado, AR 71730 870-862-1252 www.haitifoundation.org

**100% Used
as Designated
by Donor**

**TUITION:
One School Year - \$75**

Current Resident or



*"Your generosity brings God's people
from darkness to light. Light shines in
the darkness and the darkness did not
overcome it. Thank You for being
His light in Haiti."*
- Pere Albert

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