Joy Abounds at Camp Hope!

Each summer, young people throughout Haiti assemble for a fantastic four-day experience called Camp Hope. Teens in HFHC’s sponsorship program are immersed into a fun church camp community that includes relationship building, leadership training, and Bible-based teaching. Camp Hope is many students’ safe haven and spiritual cornerstone, and it provides a Christian environment they look forward to attending year after year.

Camp Hope is a vibrant, joy-filled place and a welcome reprieve from the grind of students’ daily lives. In addition to enjoying comfortable lodging, delicious food, and updated bathrooms, students also love playing on the new soccer field from sun-up to sun-down, tie-dying their camp t-shirts, making beaded jewelry in arts and crafts, and singing and dancing to fun camp songs! Because Camp Hope provides a Christ-centered atmosphere where students feel welcomed, valued, and deeply loved, many campers who arrive emotionally guarded transition into campers who freely display huge smiles and offer warm hugs.

What do we know to be true about HFHC’s Camp Hope? It is truly changing lives. Marvens, Johnson, and Alex were campers who committed their lives to the Lord in baptism this year. Jefferson, Dahana, and Flabie were mentors who sharpened their leadership skills at camp in order to bring hope and change to their communities and their country. Richardson, Edith, and Woody were Camp Hope counselors who consistently invested in our students in order to show them the love of Christ and call them to deeper faith.

Thanks to God’s faithful guidance and the generous support of Hope for Haiti’s Children donors, we fully believe the Lord’s work at Camp Hope is making an eternal difference… one child at a time.
The Future of Agriculture

The students in the Cazeau Garden Club planted 50 trees at the Thomazeau Hope Center!

The issue of food security is still prevalent in Haiti even as the world becomes increasingly more modern. Due to deforestation and dry conditions, food is difficult to grow and erosion causes soil to wash into the oceans. Thankfully, with the help of agriculture partners, HFHC is training students on how to combat this national concern.

Through gardening programs at both the Cazeau and Thomazeau Christian Orphanages as well as the Thomazeau Christian School, students in Haiti are learning and implementing a number of sustainable practices. To use the space wisely at Cazeau, they have 3 small plot gardens where they are growing many vegetables, including corn, eggplant, and spinach. Since water can be expensive, they have created a rainwater harvest system to use a natural, renewable resource.

At Thomazeau, a rainwater capture system has also become increasingly beneficial since this rural area is usually very arid, but does have periodic thunderstorms. The system is able to capture around 700 gallons of water in an hour when it rains. The students in Thomazeau have also been planting trees and tending to a garden—growing beets, carrots, and sweet pepper. Sometimes, pests or other problems affect the gardens. These instances allow students to learn about what to do when problems occur.

Both Cazeau and Thomazeau have seen success with the formation of a Garden Club and with students taking initiative by starting their own micro gardens. HFHC hopes to have the support and resources to create agricultural initiatives in each of the ten communities where the sponsored schools reside. Allowing more students to learn about sustainability and food growth is a first step in the direction of solving the food security crisis.
My journey to Haiti began on my quest to meet our sweet Bebylove. In 2016, my husband Derek and I began sponsoring one of the Cazeau orphans knowing only a few pieces of her story. Later that year, Tonya Hunt, Vice President of HFHC, visited the Ladies’ Class at our Tusculum congregation to talk about Hope for Haiti’s Children. After class, Tonya shared more of Bebylove’s story with me. She said that Bebylove has never had anyone to call her own. It was in that moment that I knew I had to go meet this sweet little girl and let her know she was ours! In 2017, we went on our first trip to Haiti as part of the annual child care clinic team. It was an exciting moment to meet Bebylove for the first time, and our bond has only grown since then.

During the clinic that year, there were ten children sitting on a bench turned around looking in our direction. My sister, Gena Hesselrode, called to me and said: “Don’t look.” Of course, I looked. Those smiles get me every time! Gena told me they were unsponsored, and our wheels started turning. Tonya walked by and said, “Girls, remember this is only Day 1.” She knows us well.

That was an aha moment for me, in that I can’t sponsor them all, though I wanted to so BADLY.

No, I can’t sponsor them all, but I can HELP them all. Rebuilding Hope 2020 HELPS them ALL!

We have returned to Haiti three times as part of the child care clinic, with my love for these kids and HFHC [this ministry] growing more and more. In 2018, my sister Gena and I decided to put together a mission team for the summer of 2019. We wanted to be a part of “Rebuilding Hope” for the kids in Haiti. As part of the rebuilding efforts, our team painted a cabin and the water towers in preparation for summer camp. We were so excited to be part of helping to bring the Christian Leadership Youth Camp to Thomazeau. I know God is going to do great things with this project even beyond summer camp.

During our trip, we conducted a VBS each day which gave us an opportunity to spend quality time with the kids and teach them about Jesus. We were also able to develop stronger relationships with the Haitian staff and be an encouragement to them. We saw firsthand the “teach a man to fish” in action – with the gardens, hatchery, and tilapia tank right there on the HFHC property.

Being on property, staying at the Hope Center, and worshiping with the Thomazeau church gave me (us) the opportunity to see the potential – the hope that is growing there.

In the three years we have served in Haiti, we have seen the start and finish of:

- the security wall
- additional classrooms built and being built
- the vision of bringing the leadership camp to HFHC property come to life
- new dorms for the Thomazeau orphans
- solar panels at Thomazeau
- and so much more.

It is amazing to see the transformation of the property but, more importantly, to see the transformation of the children and the community.

I am excited to see what the future holds for Hope for Haiti’s Children. I pray that we can all continue to be a part of HELPING THEM ALL. God is doing BIG things in Haiti.
MAY

Caring for widows. This team of eight walked to remote locations to visit the homes of widows in deep need. They brought food, supplies, and spent time encouraging and praying with them. In return, this team was blessed by the faith of these courageous ladies. (Sugar Land, TX)

JUNE

Camp Hope Week 1: The Blue Team wins! This group of boys and their mentors were awarded the boys’ group-of-the-week for their outstanding teamwork, display of servant leadership, and knowledge of the Bible. (Glendale Road Church of Christ — Murray, KY)

Camp Hope Week 2: Ketura, Pam, and Dahana formed friendships that will last a lifetime! Both Ketura and Dahana were once campers...and returned to camp as translators and mentors for younger teens! (Northeast Church of Christ — Cincinnati, OH)

JULY

In just four days, a medical team treated over 700 individuals from the Thomazeau church & community. (Pegram, TN)

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP YOUTH CAMP:

Over 100 campers attended HFHC’s third camp of the summer. These teens enjoyed four days of recreational activities, Bible study and discussion groups, food, and fellowship. This year, ten of them decided to be baptized into Christ!

AUGUST

The HFHC Christian Schools are excited to introduce a new Bible curriculum this academic year. In previous years, teachers have been able to teach memory verses, but have not had adequate resources to systematically teach Bible stories. Now, the students will receive a holistic study of the Bible in the language they know best, Haitian Creole (Kreyol). Along with the new curriculum, Thomazeau Christian School has a new bible timeline painted on their pavilion wall (pictured left). The stick figures on the timeline reference the specific biblical events in the children’s lessons. The adults who attend the Thomazeau Church of Christ, which meets in the pavilion on Sundays, are also enjoying the illustrations as they learn and grow.

To help the principals and teachers implement the new curriculum, each school has received a tablet with a digital copy of the lessons. Each tablet is also preloaded with videos and other resources to assist with teaching a variety of subjects, including agriculture. The teachers are now better equipped to provide the children with additional learning.

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Haiti Unrest: Youth in Need of Hope and a Future  by Ken Bever

They are called the Petrochallengers. They are an ad-hoc group of 20-30-year-olds across Haiti who have called for peaceful protests over the past year in Haiti.

The group formed through Twitter and social media and are asking for accountability of their leaders after a government auditor’s report detailed in August 2017 how $1.7 billion dollars received to aid the country through Venezuela’s discounted PetroCaribe oil alliance program was embezzled or misused by Haiti’s politicians.

The PetroCaribe program, the result of an agreement that the Haitian government reached with Venezuela in 2006, was meant to give Haiti fuel at half the market price ($100/barrel at that time) and for the Haitian government to grant loans for development projects — such as housing, schools, hospitals and roads — through domestic oil sales. But the report shows that many of the funded projects were never completed, and auditors say that $1.7 billion went missing between 2008 and 2016. The report implicates 15 former ministers and senior officials along with a company once headed by the current President — Jovenel Moïse.

In February of this year, political opponents of the President added their voice to the movement, but with the intent on ousting the President. This led to violent uprising throughout much of Port-au-Prince. On April 9, the U.S. State Department issued a Level 4 travel advisory for Haiti due to the protests on the streets. After it was clear the President was not going to resign, the protests have lessened. On June 11, the State Department reduced the travel advisory back to a Level 3.

We praise God that over the course of this past spring and summer, only two U.S. volunteer mission teams have been forced to postpone their visit due to this unrest and all three of our summer leadership camps were held without any security problems.

Haiti is a young country: More than half of the population of 11 million is under 25 years old and more than half the country (6 million) live below the extreme poverty line of $1.90 per day. Many of these young people are in need of education and jobs and a way to use their God-given talents. They need to know that they are valued by God and not been abandoned without hope and a future.

Let’s not underestimate what the transformed lives of a few young people who are led by the Spirit of God can do to transform a country. Please pray for the country, for its leaders, and for our Haiti and US staff and educators as we work together to transform the lives of Haitian young people to become everything God desires them to be in their home, church, community, and nation.
Gifts In Memoriam
Chris Aleshin  
D& S. Talarab  
Minnie Chang  
K Chang  
Bailey Mae Farrow  
R & S. Lewis  
Mary Gill  
D & C. Hughey  
L. & K. Mckinnon  
Luette Kemp  
D. Caldwell  
Patrick Murray  
N. C.  
Joan Nave  
D & C. Hughey

Gifts In Honor Of
The David Booker Family  
The Blackfnelner Family  
Connecticut DOT & GM2 Assoc.  
Kenneth & G. Fargnoli  
Dr. D. Darrah  
D. & J. Cox  
G. Fargnoli  
J. F. G. G.  
Ken Fargnoli  
D. Ferraro  
Dennis Lacoss  
R. B. L.  
AnnaLeah Lacoss  
Baby Lindor’s Shower Guests  
C. Lindor  
Liz Pirtle  
P. H.  
Mathell Risinger  
R. & J. C.  
James Stafford  
D & C. Hughey  
Rhett Urban  
P. & J. U.  
Don & Alva Wilson  
G. & R. Bever

A gift can be made in memory of a loved one or to honor someone on special occasions.
Enclosed is my gift of ____________________________
Your Name ________________________________
Address _______________________________________
City ______________________ State _______ Zip Code _________
Email __________________________________________
This gift is made to honor __________________________
Or
This gift is in memory of ___________________________
Please send an acknowledgement letter to:
Name __________________________________________
Address _________________________________________
City ______________________ State _______ Zip Code _________

Projects to Consider
Each year we become aware of school and orphanage needs, facility repairs and improvements, needs for nourishment and spiritual outreach, etc. Please prayerfully consider donating funds to provide for one of the needs below:

1. **Agricultural Training**
Orphanage children are learning how to plant and tend a garden. They need ongoing funds to invest in seeds, fruit trees, and training. ($500)

2. **School Lunch Programs**
Any amount given will help purchase rice, beans, and oil, and help pay for the administration of the school lunch programs.

3. **School Benches**
Children sit together on benches which serve as their desks. All 10 schools are in need of new school benches. Each bench is $125 each.

4. **Paint the Cazeau Christian Orphanage**
Needs a fresh coat of paint inside the bedrooms and outside. The teenage children at the orphanage plan to assist with the project ($2,000)

5. **Solar Power at Dubuisson Christian School**
A full solar-powered system will enable this school to provide light to dimly lit classrooms, outlets for school equipment, and a place for the community and church to gather in the evening. ($8,500)
ORPHAN CARE

Can your church help us care for the orphaned children in Haiti?

Join us for Orphan Care Sunday! By hosting a simple meal or potluck, your church can raise money to care for our orphaned children and fund vital orphanage improvement projects. For information and the 2019 video, visit:

OrphanCareSunday.org

SAVE THE DATE

DECEMBER 3

#GIVINGTUESDAY

LIKE us on Facebook to keep up to date with this incredible opportunity to make a HUGE difference at one of our 10 schools!