



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mervin Sommers
John Knepp
Ivan Miller

6500 Brown Road
Jonesville, MI 49250
517-287-4007
ifm-hdr@juno.com
ifmhaiti.org

ADVISORY BOARD

Don Zook
Joe Schlabach
Bill Jones
Alvin Bontrager

June 2011

**Did you pray
for me?**

**Come sit
with me....**

Story inside...



See Dadou's story
on this page

URGENT:

IFM has an urgent need for a secretary at the home office in Michigan. This can be a volunteer or paid position. Please contact the home office for more details at 517-287-4007

In September of 2010, a little girl and her father came to our clinic from the mountains. The little girl, Dadou, had a very bad bone infection with 5 open, oozing holes on her leg. She had the infection for 9 months already, trying home remedies and going to witch doctors. Our doctors immediately sent her to Port-au-Prince to a children's hospital where they performed 2 surgeries over a period of 6 months. She had to stay at the hospital for that whole time with her mama or papa visiting every couple of weeks. After 6 months her mountain mama, who doesn't understand anything about medicine, informed Dadou was better and she was taking her doctors told her that it was not a good idea and if she decided to go against their word, they would not allow Dadou back in their hospital ever course, the mama didn't care because she thought her little girl was all better, and she needed her at home in the mountains! On their way home, Dadou and her mama stopped in to see us and tell us how "good" Dadou was doing. We soon realized that she was in fact not better at all...she still needed lots of attention. After much talking over the next 2 days we convinced the mama and papa to let Dadou live with us so we could take care of her leg. Living with us for 3 months now, we have taken her to see many doctors and have had many tests and x-rays taken. Just in the last month we have found 2 doctors whom we feel we can trust, and that we know are not just after our money. They told us we can keep putting Dadou through surgery where they will scrape the bone of infection, but it will always come back and eventually there won't be any bone left to scrape. The cold reality, they said, is that our little 8 yr. old girl's leg will need to be amputated. We were just horrified to hear them say it, although we knew before it could be a possibility. Just this morning a team of doctors from the States came to our house to see Dadou. They looked at her x-rays and agreed that amputation is the best way to go. They encouraged us by reminding us that it won't be the end of the world for her. Since she is so young she will learn to use a prosthetic leg easily and quickly rather than having to hobble around on her own little crutches everywhere. At the end of their visit we all stood in a circle, holding hands and praying for a miracle for Dadou!



Children's Home Staff & children

Dadou is a very sweet girl! She loves to talk and talk. She only knows Creole which has been so helpful for us to learn it better! She loves helping with the kids...carries them around, singing to them, and looking at books with them. She is also a big help with laundry, scrubbing much better and faster than I can. Recently she told Mary Ann, the nanny here, that she just needs more work! She said at her house she worked all day long! We love Dadou so much and only want the best for her. Please join us in prayer for her bone infection and that God would give the doctors wisdom to know what is the best for her!



Wilson, Dadou, Mich

From the Director:

PLEASE NOTE:

We regret that due to the new airline restriction of one checked bag per traveler we will no longer be able to carry packages to the mission staff in Haiti or the Dominican Republic. Packages of 5lbs. or less may still be sent via Missionary Flights International if the sender is willing to pay for air freight, brokerage and customs fees. MFI currently charges \$1.50/lb. air freight to Port-au-Prince. Customs/brokerage fees can be as much as \$25.00 (US) additional per package depending on package weight and contents.

PLEASE CALL THE HOME OFFICE (517-287-4007) BEFORE SENDING ANY PACKAGES AND WE WILL ADVISE YOU AS TO THE BEST SHIPMENT METHOD.

Dear Supporters,

"Blessed is He that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in the time of trouble." Psalm 41:1



Handing out PUR water treatment &
Oral rehydration drink

God has blessed the earthquake rebuilding project this past winter with approximately 130 volunteers coming on eight work teams. We want to especially thank everyone who took time, giving up work and the comforts of home, to make it possible for the poor to have a home to come home to. Twelve of the fourteen duplexes we started have been completed. The other two are started but due to running out of disaster funds we cannot finish these at this time. This is a real disappointment to the four families who were promised they would receive a place to live. We need approximately \$6000.00 to complete these two buildings. We would love to construct more houses if the Lord would see fit to supply the means to do so. So many people are still living in tents in deplorable conditions. Plans are to have a dedication service and present the completed houses to the recipients the first week of June.

The Durwin Miller family, our project managers who have been such a tremendous blessing in making this project successful, will be returning home to Indiana on June 9th. We sincerely thank them for allowing the Lord to use them.

There has been a resurgence of cholera the past few weeks with the rainy season, though not as bad as during the major epidemic. We had a mother from the mountains of Gwo Cheval come with two children. All three had cholera. The sad part is that she lost two children prior to coming for help. They were told that they had an evil spirit, so they washed the bodies and splashed the contaminated water over themselves to wash away the evil spirits. Upon hearing their story we immediately sent two of our health agents to their area to give training to the community on cholera prevention. Many of the current patients are coming from that area. We currently have treated over 3,200 cholera patients with only 18 deaths. We have been blessed to be able to help so many people without our staff contracting the disease. Hundreds of lives have been saved because of many who have shared their means and abilities to make it possible for us to be there for them. For this we bless you!



Cholera awareness training
in Gwo Cheval

Serving for Eternal Results,

Merv Sommers

-- NOTICE --

**The Michael Martin Family will be available from
July 18th - August 5th to speak in churches, Sunday Schools, etc.
presenting the work they are doing in Haiti.**

**To schedule them at your church
please contact the home office at
517-287-4007.**

DID YOU PRAY FOR ME?

Come sit with me.

Sing a song, please!!

I like your sandals, may I have them???

The list goes on & on & on. All this & more—questions, demands, pleading faces, sad, hurt, tired & hopeless, but yet rambunctious, & in desperate love of my Jesus!

Today I once more had the privilege to go to the Government Housing Projects for the Wednesday, afternoon Bible Class. When I first arrived I went to their houses and asked them to come. Before long a few shy, but eager faces came peeking in at the school room doors, where we have our class. However, it never takes long to overcome the shyness and shortly after we begin to sing, the attendance has increased, and they are bouncing up & down. Now it is my challenge to try to maintain order! Before long my lap is piled with children as they all strain to get a look at the Bible storybook I have in my hand. They love these stories and seem to know them fairly well. Sometimes it seems they must learn nothing and their minds stray far from the topics, yet I believe most important to them is the time I spent. Was I patient? Even when their chatter was endless? Maybe today it doesn't matter so much if they knew every detail, but instead that we had time to chat. Indeed, importance of time fades away as I hold a little girl with an old, tattered shirt. We talk a long time about nothing, like why God made their hair different than mine, or I teach them some fun English words!! Yes, nothing – or wait, maybe it was something! It was God's blessing in my and their day. So indeed it was something!! So... did I pray for them, they are souls, precious souls, after all. They have an eternity. **Will they come to Heaven with me??**

Julia Bauman

The Good or the Best?

"Many of us do not continue to grow spiritually because we prefer to choose on the basis of our rights, instead of relying on God to make the choice for us. Whenever our right becomes the guiding factor of our life, it dulls our spiritual insight. The greatest enemy of the life of faith in God is not sin, but choices which are not quite good enough. The good is always the enemy of the best." -Oswald Chambers

When the daily grind of life is rubbing my heart, do I respond with a submissive heart, or a hard about ourselves when

ers, and when things are may we realize that your important than your work

The fellowship in

tinuing to grow spiritually

preaching of God's Word

live godly lives. Jesus Christ as Lord WILL make a difference! Tom shares a

message occasionally and is mastering the language. We are seeing the

Lord work through some of our initial contacts

as their friends and family are now coming to the services. Hosting the Wednesday night

Ladies' Bible Study in our homes has brought a greater response from the community. We

praise God for every new face and heart! Debby Martin is leading the Girl's Club

on Thursday nights, and Kiko and Tom are ministering to the boys on Fridays. These are

times of good instruction, singing, crafts, and mentoring these impressionable

lives. IFM has recently purchased property in Jimani and plans to construct our own meeting

house in the future.

It has been a blessing to have the visits from our families and friends. Their encouragement and involvement is appreciated. We have

enjoyed hosting our native friends along with visitors for a meal, time of fellowship and sometimes

an English lesson or game of Spanish Scrabble. Many of the IFM/Haiti work teams under the direction of Durwin Miller

have visited or worshiped with us and shared a meal together.

Debby's "monkey business" has given opportunity for girls to come help bake and sell. The community really enjoys the product! The monies will be used to print a new paperback

songbook for the youth here at Adelante con Cristo Mennonite Church.

Lake Saumatre is continuing to rise and cover the road between us and Haiti, bringing its own challenge to cross the border.

We are daily blessed and stretched with culture, language and needs. We praise God - HE is in control!



New Christians recently baptized



Girls' Club pillow project



Debby selling monkey cakes



Monkey Business

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That Ray is experiencing healing from his fall in Haiti.
- For all of the work teams that gave their time this winter
- For victory over demonic activity in the church
- That land was purchased for a church in the D.R.
- For current staff that have committed to longer field terms

- Funds to continue the earthquake rebuilding project
- For the thieves that robbed Shea this past month
- Keith Martin and Sulley Pacheco as they begin terms of voluntary service in Haiti
- The safety of staff coming home for furlough this summer
- For the staff suffering from Malaria
- For the numerous Haiti Benefit Auctions as funds are raised for the various missions in Haiti
- For the new converts in the Dominican Republic Church

Tom & Laurie Mohler and Debby Martin

PROJECT UPDATE



Finished row of houses



Finished duplex



Meeting with house recipients



House recipient



Meeting with local committee members that helped to organize the project.



These ladies were very diligent in helping with the project every day.

A number of Sundays ago I got to do something I had always dreamed of doing... go to Lot bo Dlo, with my sister, Sheila, for church by boat. Lot bo Dlo is a village across the lake and the only accessible way is by boat or going through the DR, which takes a very long time. We had been there to do vaccinations a few weeks before and met a girl that invited us over for church. Shea drove us to the 'dock', which is the shore just beside the road, and we waited for the colorful boat to come across to get us. It arrived, and we piled in, 5 of us and some others waiting on the shore. Our friend's brother rowed the boat and he had someone bail water not very far into the ride. We made it and didn't even get wet! We wound our way up a dirt path, mud huts, past grunting pigs and crowing roosters, greeting hearty 'Bonjou'. I had to think of how Jesus sailed His boat, barren trails, teaching, preaching, and showing love to whomever He met on His way. Everyone was really ex-'blans' (whites) and Fond Parisien 'mouns' (people) at their We entered a little, rickety church and were given seats right in the front. They were singing when we got there and the singing only got louder and louder! Everyone was in joyful spirits, and after the praise & something out of the the usher was super going in and out of the paying attention or church, and before back. Well, the first looked and looked for were ready to head or so we were back to shore and our ride from the mission was waiting for us. It was a day that will forever be etched in my memory.... the boat ride in a colorful wooden boat that had a small leak, waves gently rocking us to and fro, landing on the other side, and stepping carefully from one boat into another one 'so our feet don't get wet', walking the dusty trail, being warmly welcomed to join the service in a humble little 'shack', and then worshipping the same great God who created the whole universe in just 6 days!



Michelle Driedger

~ WAYS YOU CAN HELP ~

General

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to be used where needed most.



Aid for Orphans

I am donating \$ _____ to aid orphans not in the IFM Children's Home.



Children's Home

I wish to give for the operating expenses of the Children's Home \$ _____ monthly \$ _____ one-time donation



Disaster Relief

I desire to help relieve suffering in Haiti from the earthquake of Jan. 12, 2010

1. I am interested in helping with the rebuilding effort \$ _____
2. I cannot go to Haiti to build, but would like to pay a Haitian boss \$ _____ (\$125 per week)



School Sponsorship

I wish to sponsor # _____ children at \$15 per month/\$180 per year. I am enclosing \$ _____ as my initial payment and understand that I will receive a picture and more information.



Dominican Republic Outreach

This \$ _____ is to help bring Christ to the D.R.



Medical Relief

I would like to help those who can't afford medical care.



\$ _____ monthly
\$ _____ one-time gift

Food Pantry

I wish to help stock the church's relief supply for the poor within the church.

\$ _____ monthly
\$ _____ one-time



Hospital

Quality medical care is difficult to find/ afford in Haiti.

\$ _____ construction \$ _____ operating expense \$ _____ where most needed
\$ _____ cholera treatment/training

Any Sponsored donations received above and beyond the present need will be used for a similar cause.

My "job" here is mostly being "Mom" to our 3 boys. Our boys are very much at home here, and I begin to feel a little out of the loop when Josiah, who is 3, tells me a word in Creole that I didn't know before!! The Haitians are proud as can be that Josiah speaks just like a Haitian. He doesn't say, "I think" all the time!!!

Living close to the school creates its come a frequent customer at the little was so cute to see him trot up there or cheese puffs all by himself. We had which resulted in him trying to buy found!!! Needless to say, his little his footsteps!! The ladies who sell and every once in a while they still Josiah and Nic have an unpaid bill.

I'm realizing all the foods that are so such a big hit to my little guys. The burritos, or so I thought!! As I took he explained to me that he needed own.

Their play is a bit different here than to the airport or go to the clinic. It's not any 3 yr. old who pretends he forgot his passport or wonders if you speak English, Spanish or Creole!!!

I am happy to be a Mom here. It has its own set of struggles and adjustments as does any place. My goal is to bloom where I'm planted, whether in Haiti, in the States, or wherever I am.

**SO, YOU LIVE IN
HAITI...**

**WHAT DO YOU
ACTUALLY DO?**

own set of issues. Josiah has be-food stand at the school. At first it and buy some juice, crackers, candy, to soon put a limit to his spending, snacks with some UNO cards he'd brother Nic seems to be following in the snacks are so patient with them, send other boys down to tell me

great or special to me aren't always other day, we had a treat, breakfast Josiah his breakfast on the porch, Haitian bread!! Oh well, each to his

at home. They may pretend to drive

Joanna Martin

This newsletter printed by: Little Mountain Printing, Myerstown, PA 17067 PH: 717-933-8091

INTERNATIONAL FAITH MISSIONS
6500 BROWN RD.
JONESVILLE, MI 49250

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