



**Current Needs:**

- > We'd like to raise an extra \$2000 for benches and school supplies for the new 7-12 grade school in Wiliamson.
- > We'd like to raise an extra \$4000 for the church/school that we're planning in the mountains.

**Ministry Expands to Meet Needs**

The House of Hope ministry started about three years ago with the goal of starting an orphanage in Haiti. As we have worked in Haiti we've begun to understand the culture better, and we've

Board of Directors of the House of Hope have been discussing how the ministry should expand. We've been praying for a piece of land where we could build a school that could bless as many children as possible. Our prayers were answered and last month we were able to purchase 1.6 acres in a region of Haiti called Wiliamson. The land is located about a 10 minute drive from the House of

However, the school in Wiliamson has a chance to bless that whole region of Haiti. We estimate that there are between 1,500 and 2,000 students who attend primary schools in the Wiliamson region, but we found no schools that go past the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The school that we are building in Wiliamson will accept as many students from all of the students in the region that we can. Pastor Quene will administer the school and will pastor a church at the same location. We plan to have our first 7<sup>th</sup> grade class in the fall.

In addition, we found that the people who live in the mountainous areas have no access to schools at all. Behind the House of Hope, the terrain becomes mountainous, and the nearest mountain village is about a 3-hour hike from the orphanage. The people in the mountains have asked us to put a school there. We are thankful that God provided us with a godly young man named David who felt called to help us plant a church and a primary school in the mountains. By fall we hope to have started a kindergarten. We continue to be amazed at God's provision and leading as we serve the people of Haiti.— Mike Bellamy

*Surveying the land for the new high school*



begun to understand the needs of the country.

We discovered that there are many schools in Haiti that go from kindergarten through the 6<sup>th</sup> grade (primary schools). However, schools that go past the 6<sup>th</sup> grade are rare. Those that exist are usually private schools that charge fees that most Haitians cannot afford.

The members of the

Hope orphanage. The children from the orphanage will be able to attend this school. In addition, the House of Hope ministry helps support the Good Samaritan school, which is also run by the director of the orphanage. The school goes from kindergarten through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and has about 100 students. We hope to help the Good Samaritan school add a 6<sup>th</sup> grade. After that, the students from this school will have the chance to go to the new school in Wiliamson.

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## Pastor Nickso



*“Pastor” Nickso is ten years old and has a strong faith in Jesus.*

*“I am the good Shepherd, the good Shepherd lays down his life for the Sheep.” John 10:11*

Recently, while looking through a photo album of the children at the House of Hope, I was amazed at the difference three years has made. Initially the children looked like they were just in a survival mode, but now they are vibrant. I thought of the change in Nickso. Nickso is a 10 year old young man who loves the Lord. Mirlande, the director, affectionately calls him “Pastor Nickso,” and with good reason. Nickso loves to worship; I’ve seen him leading the other children in chorus after chorus numerous times. He also loves to pray. One of the most memorable moments for me in Haiti was when Nickso asked if he could pray for me,

and did.

He wrote this prayer for us when we were in Haiti last summer:

“My Savior – I want to thank you that you protect us. You take care of me anytime there is a lot of difficulty. When I look in John 10:11 you said, ‘I am the good Shepherd, the good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.’ I bless your name because you are our Shepherd. I pray for everyone who helps us at the House of Hope. I bless your name in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.”

Nickso wants to be a Pastor when he grows up. He now has hope and through your generous gifts he has a future. In order to have an effective ministry in Haiti we’ll need people like Nickso. —Nannette Zander

## Bibla?

My wife, Johanna, and I went with Mike and a team of 12 to Haiti in March. Johanna, who is a school nurse here in Oberlin, Kansas, went as a representative of our elementary school. Oberlin Elementary School has adopted the Good Samaritan School at the House of Hope as a sister school. The children at OES have worked on ways to help the children in Haiti, including collecting items like underwear,

toothbrushes, pencils, paper, books and other fun items. While there, Johanna did checkups on the kids in the orphanage to look for any problems and get a baseline of health information on each child.

My wife has always dreamed of doing some sort of mission work so this was an exciting opportunity. I had never had such a dream so it took some convincing on her part. Eventually I warmed up to the idea and even



*Adeline, the maid, eagerly reads her new Creole Bible*

### Bibla? (cont.)

got to work on the idea of bringing Bibles to the Haitians. I asked the Decatur County Ministerial Association if they would be interested in helping fund the purchase of these Bibles. As a result we were able to purchase 30 Haitian Creole Bibles. These were nice, Old and New Testament Bibles with maps and references.

It was very rewarding giving these Bibles to the Haitian

people. They were very excited to receive them and very thankful. One person in particular was touched by my heart. I had just entered my hotel room with a handful of Bibles to put in my backpack before we headed out for the day, when I noticed the cleaning lady, Adeline, coming out of the bathroom. As she came near me she noticed the Bibles and pointed at them saying, "Bibla?" I said, "Yes, Bibles," and I handed her one.

She got so excited that she squealed. When she left the room she stood outside the room looking at the Bible and I was able to take a picture of her through the window, looking at her new Bible. It's a fuzzy, bad quality picture, but it's my favorite one from the trip. —Pastor Doug Mason, Oberlin, Kansas

**“When she left the room she stood outside looking at the Bible...”**

### H<sub>2</sub>O Project Update

In the December, 2008 newsletter we mentioned that the campus ministry “Christian Campus House” at Northwest Missouri State University worked with Countryside Christian Church of Maryville, Missouri to raise money to provide water for people in Haiti. Together they raised \$2,450. As a ministry, we really stress to the people we work with in Haiti the

importance of sharing with the needy people we come across. With the H<sub>2</sub>O funds, we’ve been able to reach out to our neighbors. We spent \$450 to dig a badly-needed hand-dug well in Mure. The well is nearly done. To finish it we plan to put a concrete lip around it to keep rainwater from washing bacteria into the well. We’d also really like to figure out how to put a good-



*A disappointing dry spring in the mountains. The people there are receiving a new well through our H<sub>2</sub>O funds.*



quality hand pump on the well.

In addition, in the area of the mountains where we’re planting a church/school, we gave the people in the mountains \$550 to dig a well. They’re in desperate need of water since the last hurricane blew over a large tree, blocking the flow of water from a spring that was their only source of water. We’d also like to put a spring box there and put a hand pump on the well.

Finally, we’ve begun to dig a well in Williamson that will be used by the church and school.

*A well dug with House of Hope funds. Wells like it are being dug with H<sub>2</sub>O funds.*

## Next trips/Annual meeting

The House of Hope ministry is rapidly expanding and there has been quite a bit of interest in going to Haiti. Because of this, we will try to make two trips a year. Our next trip will likely be over Christmas (December 2009 or January 2010). We tentatively plan to go again in June of 2010. If you're interested in going to Haiti on either of these trips, please contact me.

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We are planning our annual meeting in July, to make important decisions concerning the House of Hope. Everyone is



Children at the House of Hope ran out to see us when we returned to finish the VBS that we started that morning. What a joy to see their enthusiasm for seeing us and for learning more about their Savior.

welcome to attend.

If you cannot attend, you can still e-mail us your thoughts about the issues.

Date and time of Annual Meeting: Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

Location: Christ Lutheran Church, 3509 SW Burlingame Road, Topeka, Kansas

Agenda:

- Review the 2008 financial report.
- Approve the budget for 2009.
- Elect Officers and Board Members as Needed.
- Discuss and pray about plans for expansion of the ministry.

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*The House of Hope is a Christian ministry located about 41 miles north of Port au Prince, Haiti. The ministry is dedicated to spreading the love of Jesus by providing food, shelter, clothing, and both Christian and secular education to the children of Haiti.*

*[www.houseofhopehaiti.com](http://www.houseofhopehaiti.com)*

*The House of Hope Haiti is a tax-exempt organization under IRC 501(c)(3)*