



Brown

FAMILY MISSION

Jacmel, Haiti

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Dear friends,

September was a fun and exciting month as we continued to move forward with our ministry plans. As has been the case over the last many months, we continue to have a pretty full schedule of meeting with individuals, small groups and churches to share about what God is calling us to in Haiti- at least as far as He is allowing us to see, that is. We have been so blessed by the response we have gotten from many of the groups with whom we have shared.

One of the first orders of business since our changing focus to serving in Haiti has been to develop a budget. Any of you who have done this practice in our day to day lives know that it isn't the most fun thing to go through, and just because we are missionaries doesn't mean that it is any more fun for us. But it is necessary to count the cost before we set out and so we have spent much time trying to figure our budget. One additional challenge that we have had to face is that we are attempting to figure out the costs for living and working in another country without actually knowing how much that costs. We have attempted to gather some real life figures by meeting with and networking with other missionaries and individuals who have been there for many years. This has been a great help and we are confident we are at least in the ball park on our number. The bottom line is that we are figuring we will need about \$5,000 per month inclusive of personal and ministry expenses. I can provide to anyone interested the breakdown of that amount detailing our stateside and Haitian side expenses. We do have some onetime expenses that we have to raise also. These are mostly for setting up house, vehicle and getting established in a new country. This is somewhat nebulous figure because we just are not sure what is available in Haiti at this point. We are figuring will need about \$30,000 for one year's rent (paid up front, in advance, of course), a vehicle (purchased stateside and shipped + duty/customs/taxes in Haiti – or- purchased locally in Haiti), some appliances and a generator (if funds permit). This seems like a lot to consider, and it is. Fortunately we are able to draw on our previous experience in Kenya so it doesn't seem like such a foreign concept in the planning phase- but the execution phase is something completely different.

The good news is that we are well on our way to reaching these goals. We have about \$3,500 (70%) coming into our account at Haitian Support Ministries from our existing supporters who have already switched over and we are continuing to meet with churches and small groups to close the remaining gap. Additionally, we have about 30% of our onetime expenses raised and we have about 3 months to raise the balance. We will continue to contact you all to help us reach our goal in time. And "Thank You" to all of you who have already joined with us in this new adventure, we have been so encouraged by your support and we praise God for this provision. One note of housekeeping along these lines, is that we have not yet begun receipting for donations. While we are receiving donations, we have just not figured out an efficient way to issue receipts. We are using a program that will allow us to send electronic receipts via email and this would be the preferred method with us being out of country and having to now manage this administrative task ourselves. Please be patient with us in this area.

One of the projects that HSM is planning to initiate is a water purification system that will be located in Calvary Church as part of the reconstruction. From September 15-19, I (Jeff) traveled to Oxford, Mississippi and was enrolled in Living Waters for the World to learn about planning for and installing water purification systems. This is an amazing ministry that not only installs water filtration/purification systems, but trains national church leaders to operate and maintain the system (and train others to do the same) and in doing so produces a sustainable community development vs. a continual foreign handout. I was extremely impressed by the level of planning and years of experience that Living Waters has invested in this ministry and I look forward to reporting more on this as we move closer to the actual planning and installation phase.

Elliott and I, along with a huge group of doctors, will be traveling down to Jacmel over the week of October 18th. The doctors will be screening and checking on the school students and children at New Life Children's Home and a few of us non-medical types will be working on some maintenance and minor construction issues. I also hope to be able to begin taking some water samples and conducting tests on the local water supply at that time to determine which water system we will need to install.

Tammi has been very busy with home school stuff. Emily and Elliott are now on a computer based curriculum and Edison is learning to read. Between Edison and Evangeline alone, Tammi has a full time job. So it was a good decision that we implemented this new schooling system- plus it is mobile which means that the kids will have some consistency even as we relocate. Evangeline is growing so fast. Emily is so helpful in taking care of her and Edison and Elliott are the two funniest people Evangeline has ever seen! They can get her laughing so hard, even in the van while we are driving. Tammi is still enjoying the fact that Evangeline is not mobile, but even now we can see that she is trying to move around. At this point she can only move in circles and scoot backwards a very short distance, but even this little bit makes Tammi hug her and scold her not to grow up. Evangeline just smiles.

We would sure appreciate some prayers as we continue to prepare for our move to Haiti. Would you please pray for:

- Our remaining support
- Focus and discernment as we move forward, that we would hear God's voice among the busyness
- Time to rest and refresh and prepare
- A growing dependence upon God and awareness of His provision and protection
- A big financial concern of ours regards a vehicle. Please pray that God will provide us with the best option. This can be a big financial expense or it may be something that we can accomplish for 50% of what we have planned for. Obviously, we would love to come in way below budget, but the reality is that it might be costly. God can open a door we don't even know about and that is our prayer in this area especially.

We are praising God for:

- His church and people who have a heart for the lost
- Volunteers and those that tithe their time
- Children and the future of the church
- The incredible encouragement we receive from supporters
- The change in seasons- I am already preparing for the 2 Haitian seasons (Hot and Hotter)

Thanks for caring, praying and being part of our lives as we live out God's calling to the best of our ability. And a special thanks to Ema Loucks for designing our newsletter header! Thanks, Ema!

In His hands,

Jeff & Tammi

Emily, Elliott, Edison and Evangeline