



# Living Hope Ministries in Haiti

October - November 2024 Newsletter



## This Year, We Celebrate 30 Years of GOD'S Goodness, Provision, Protection, and Blessing to Living Hope Ministries in Haiti!!!



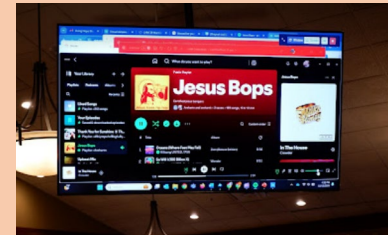
It felt so amazingly GOOD to walk into the banquet room at Der Dutchman in Plain City, Ohio to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Living Hope Ministries in Haiti. How long had it been since we had last gathered there for the Fall Benefit and Silent Auction? I had to look it up, but 2018 was the last time. We had the Fall Benefit in one of our supporting churches in 2019, but Mary Jane and Andris were unable to leave Haiti that year due to the unrest in the country. And then Covid-19 came, and after those restrictions were lifted, Haiti had become too dangerous for travel to the airport in Port-au-Prince. During those years, we moved to an online Fall Benefit and God continued to provide for Living Hope through your support and generosity.

But how wonderful it was to be able to gather in person again and share a meal as we worshipped together and heard story after story of God's goodness and faithfulness to His people, both at home and abroad. Many of you who were able to attend shared your stories about going on a mission trip to LHM, and an overarching theme emerged as we listened. Every person who spoke was changed in some way by their experience. Everyone grew. Everyone drew closer to God.

In the next few issues of the newsletter, we will feature some of these stories of change. The stories are from people who went to the mission, but don't feel like you have to go there to encounter our Living God and His work through Living Hope. We invite you to visit the website and log onto Facebook (links below). Spend some time reading, watching the videos, and looking through the photos. It's not the same as actually being there, but it's close. Every time I take a "trip" through the website, I feel like I'm there. And I'll bet you will be able to feel it too.

— Deanna Breeding, Newsletter Editor

To see the entire photo gallery, go to LHM's Facebook page!



Follow Living Hope Ministries in Haiti on Instagram ([www.instagram.com/livinghopehaiti](http://www.instagram.com/livinghopehaiti)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/LivingHopeMinistriesHaiti](http://www.facebook.com/LivingHopeMinistriesHaiti)) for exciting and current videos and photos of activities at LHM.

**Our Mission:** To train a generation of young men and women to change their families, communities, and nation with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Word and Action.

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Thank you if you are getting your LHM Newsletter by email!

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# How GOD changed me through Living Hope Ministries in Haiti

Most of the people who have visited Living Hope Ministries in Haiti have come back with one thing in common: a changed life. We will be sharing the testimonies of some of them in the newsletters over the next few months.



**Rev. Hope Boring has been a volunteer for LHM for many years. She currently serves as LHM's Vice-President.**

In 1996, I became a Youth Director at Ascension Lutheran Church. One of our goals was to plan a mission trip of some sort. I knew Mary Jane in Haiti at the time. God and I thought this would be a great opportunity to experience a mission trip. So...the journey began. The planning and logistics to take 12 people (5 youth and 7 adults) to Haiti towards the end of July 1996 (just three weeks after my mother passed away) were challenging. I had no clue about how to plan a mission trip, let alone how to take 12 people out of the USA. I learned to really trust God with remembering paperwork and managing people so they didn't get lost in airports and customs.

God was awesome and powerful in the experience, and so was the love of the people in Haiti. When we landed, the airport in Port au Prince was pretty small at that time. We had to exit at the back end of the plane, and there were people singing and playing steel drums. It was amazing. Our luggage and supplies for LHM went on top of two buses/cars, and that was a sight! On our first trip to Haiti, our lives were changed. Our group grew closer, and we experienced community among the Haitians as well as within our group. I personally had to lean on God more than ever, let go of my "control," and let God do His will. And He did not fail! Since then, God has given me the skills and trust to travel to Haiti 7 more times, either with groups or by myself. My last trip was 2018 for a special birthday. My hope for the future, when Haiti settles down, is to go back more frequently.

**Mark Breeding also served as LHM's Vice-President for several years. He especially enjoyed coordinating the Fall Benefits and silent auctions at Der Dutchman.**



Joy in the Lord. That is what I remember most about my first visit to LHM in Haiti in 2005... and it was reinforced in all my subsequent visits. The LHM community that I experienced, while extremely poor in physical terms, was very rich in spiritual terms. The students as well as the adults brought an infectious joy and enthusiasm to each day and all they encountered. During my second visit I taught a lesson from Philippians as a guest speaker, focusing on the uplifting message Paul delivered to that community. He rejoices in their faith, their partnership in advancing the Kingdom, and the way they live out their lives daily for Christ.

Joy is infused throughout this letter. It only occurred to me later that the LHM community was living out the example of the Philippians... and that they were teaching me rather than the other way around. Chapter 2 verses 1 and 2 from that book sum up what I have taken away from my visits to LHM and provide a good guide for Christina living:

*"So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind."*

When asked to write a short article about how LHM has affected my life I quickly realized that I could fill pages with my experiences during my 7 visits as well as the years I served on the board. But in the end, it is this positive, joyful outlook and living a fulfilling Christian life – modelled by Andris, Mary Jane, and the many members of the community – that has made the most lasting impact on me.



## Student sponsorship is a very important way to support Living Hope.

We always have students that need to be sponsored – by a family, a group, a couple, or an individual. If you chose to sponsor, you will be assigned a student. You can also partner with one of our preschool classes or one of our trade school classes.

Student sponsorship is so important because it provides the children with a daily hot and nutritious meal, textbooks, and school supplies. It also provides a substantial part of the teachers' salaries. And you have the added blessing of having the opportunity to build a relationship with your student if you like. The suggested donation to sponsor one child is \$40/month.



# The Haiti Update

Hello Everyone,

The Haitian government declared all schools to open in October. So, our Preschool, Primary School, and the Trade Schools opened the first week of October, even though the situation of Haiti remains the same.

Andris continues to supervise and oversee LHM in Haiti. Every Friday afternoon Andris does teacher training for 1-2 hours. He's a very stabilizing factor for the students, staff, and community as the gang activity continues in our area and throughout Haiti. I continue to do the administrative tasks from here taking care of payrolls, expenses, US board meetings, and whatever else I can do to help.

Many of the roads in our area remain impassable since May 1<sup>st</sup>. The gangs have intermingled with the people in the communities, making it very difficult to identify them. They have started to ransack empty homes in our area. Please continue to pray for the safety of LHM and all the community, as well as the gang people.

The entrance of foreign troops into Haiti has brought many problems since many of the soldiers don't know the Haitian culture, language, and land, etc. Also, many Haitians realize that the foreign troops don't have the means to instill security for the Haitian people and communities. Please pray for all of them.

In the midst of the gang activity and political upheaval, please continue to pray for the missing people, especially those in our own immediate community. One of them is our church member, and a second one is the husband of one of our teachers. Continue to pray for forgiveness and, if possible, that they would be found and return home.

Andris and I remain certain that God has called us, ordained us, and continues to use LHM to teach and minister to the children, youth, and adults the love and forgiveness of Christ Jesus. Please continue to pray for forgiveness of the gang leaders, members, and political leaders. Pray for God's will be done in Haiti and with LHM.

We pray in accordance with God's Word in 1 Timothy 2:1-6.

*"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time."*

Thank you for continuing to pray for Haiti. Love, *Mary Jane*



**Learn More About Haiti:** Mary Jane is currently back in Ohio helping to care for her Mom. She would be more than happy to come and share with your church, Bible Study, or other group. No meeting is too small or too large. Please contact Mary Jane directly at: [MJJolibois14@gmail.com](mailto:MJJolibois14@gmail.com) or skype phone #614-602-2802.

You can also email to [livinghopeministries94@gmail.com](mailto:livinghopeministries94@gmail.com) to request a visit.

**Zoom gatherings for your church or group are also available upon request.**

## Current Fund-Raising Initiatives:

Two Projects:

- 1.) Build safe bridges and drainage canals on the road outside the mission.
- 2.) Provide for the operational costs: supplies and materials for classes, salaries, building and yard upkeep, animals, etc.

**Thank you ahead of time for your generous giving to enable us to accomplish these projects.**

## How to Donate Gifts of Hope for LHM

- 1) **Electronic giving online** at [www.livinghopehaiti.org](http://www.livinghopehaiti.org)
  - a. Direct payments from a Checking or Savings account (one-time or recurring)
  - b. Credit Card payments (one-time or recurring)
- 2) **Checks by mail** made payable to Living Hope Ministries in Haiti.

**Giving categories:** Please note a giving category in the memo field if you desire (see examples below):

  - Church/Community Project
  - Youth University Fund
  - Student Sponsorship (include Student's number)
  - Trade School
  - Pre-School
  - Operating Expenses
  - Construction Projects

## Visit Haiti on a Mission Trip

We are praying for stability to return to the nation of Haiti. When it does, we look forward to welcoming you to Haiti for a mission trip. If you are considering a visit, let us know! We would love to have you. There are lots of exciting things happening at LHM!

Please contact Mary Jane and Andris directly at:  
[MJJolibois14@gmail.com](mailto:MJJolibois14@gmail.com)  
or skype phone #614-602-2802.



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### Our Mission

To train a generation of young men and women to change their families, communities, and nation with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Word and Action.



### Donations

Please send checks to this Ohio address:

Living Hope Ministries in Haiti  
P.O. Box 3578 Dublin,  
OH 43016-0290

**(Do not)** send cash or checks directly to Haiti.)

For **online electronic giving**, go to:

[www.livinghopehaiti.org/donation](http://www.livinghopehaiti.org/donation)

### Sponsor Packages

Please **do not** send any boxes or letters at this time. Traveling into Port-au-Prince to pick up packages/mail is still very dangerous. Therefore, Mary Jane and Andris are unable to receive things at this time. Thank you for understanding.

### Board Members

Rev. Mary Jane Jolibois – President & International Director  
Rev. Jean Andris Jolibois – Haitian Director  
Rev. Hope Boring – Vice President  
Nancy Thorbahn – Treasurer  
Karen Negley – Secretary  
Tom Single – Executive Committee Member  
Deanna Breeding – Newsletter Editor  
Mark Gunderson – Student Sponsorship

Tamara Howes – Preschool & Trade School Partnerships  
Terri McCoy – Preschool & Trade School Partnerships  
Kelly Arehart – Public Relations  
Craig Boggs – Oklahoma Partner  
Nate Arehart – Associate Member

### Ministry Partner

Penny Boggs – Administration Bookkeeper

Living Hope Ministries in Haiti, Inc. (LHM) is a 501(c)3 Tax-Exempt Organization and a member of ECA (Evangelical Church Alliance)

***Thank-You to everyone who contributes to and/or prays for LHM.  
You are a blessing to us, and you are reaching the people of Haiti with Christ's Love in Action.***