

Summer is winding down, the solar eclipse hoopla has passed and it's time to get down to business and get this newsletter out! This quarter we have a guest writer, Jenna Brown, whom I met on the July Providence VBS trip. As we chatted about her career goals – I found out she liked to write; so I enlisted her help to pull together an overview of the week. Enjoy!

Haiti, a small island with big hearts, but God has an even bigger plan. Reaching out to kids in need is an amazing opportunity, but bringing kids closer to God is even more extraordinary. A team of thirty-two members from Providence Church of God, traveled down to Haiti on July twelfth to have a Vacation Bible School at CrossRoads Church. We did just that, but we also showed God's love to many people. We may just be planting seeds, but it is the first step to the final outcome.

Kids, they're the future packed into small energetic bodies. In America, waving at a kid and giving a high five is looked down upon. In Haiti, everyone is very open minded and even more open hearted. Having a judgment-free zone where the kids can come up and hug you is very eye opening. The kids will cling to you like you're their long-lost best friend. Being on a youth trip, there were many first timers to Haiti. One of the biggest surprises was how interested in you the kids were. They would play with your hair and your hands like you were a new creature. Walking past kids, they would just want to hold your hand and never let go. For some of the people that returned for the second time, they still had kids that remembered their names. Knowing that they had made a big enough impact on a child's life where they still remembered your name after two years is very inspiring. We were able to make these connections with the kids by just a high five. It is an incredible experience, but easy to do because love is a universal language. The kids are so loving and came everyday as happy as can be.

Over the course of eight days, we got to experience true Haitian culture. As a new opportunity for many, we were able to grow immensely. Seeing the culture, and especially the poverty was an abrupt awakening. Knowing when we came home, we would have jobs, houses, and even school to go to, made us realize how selfish we are. We complain about having to wake up early to go somewhere or how we have to fill our cars with gas, but the truth is, some people would give anything to have that opportunity. The kids, some of them having nothing, came everyday devoted to the people and the worship. The kids were just trying to survive, while we managed to complain about eating out every day.



As I mentioned, this was a first time to Haiti for many. Going down there, many of us, including myself, didn't know what to expect. There was no need to worry because slowly, everything fell into place. On Thursday, we started our Vacation Bible School at CrossRoads Church of God in Archaie. Over one hundred kids showed up the first day. We were able to spread out the work by having a preschool group and an elementary group. On Friday, six members of the team went up to Doco 2 in the mountains to hold another Vacation Bible School, while the rest stayed at CrossRoads Church. On Saturday, the preschool group went to Williamson North and the Elementary group went to Saintard to have a VBS. On Sunday, the Team went to CrossRoads church and got to experience a Haitian church service. We even got the opportunity to sing some of our worship songs for the congregation. On Monday, six members were on their way to Fort Delpeche to deliver the shoes for which Providence Church raised money. Sadly, the road was washed out, so they were unable to deliver the shoes themselves. The pastor came down with a donkey and they were delivered by 'donkey' back. Tuesday was our last day holding a VBS. The whole team stayed at CrossRoads Church. On Wednesday we experienced the sweet sorrow of leaving a country that taught us so many lifelong lessons.

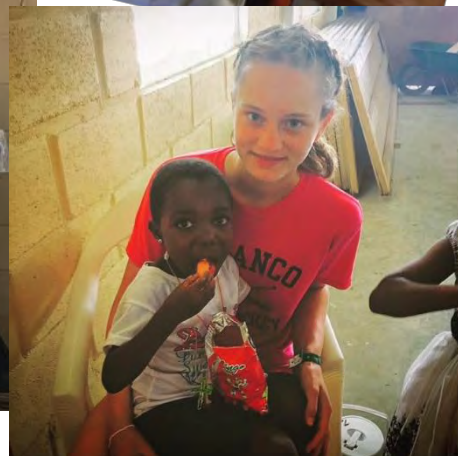
Although it was very hard to leave, hopefully we planted seeds that we can help grow the next opportunity we have to go back. *by Jenna Brown*

2017 Providence VBS Team

Mara and Matt Bland
Lauren, Megan and Shawn Breneman
Amanda, Dave, Jada and Jenna Brown
Hope Campbell
Brianna Dickel
Danae, Jenna, Kristen, Kyle, Scott and Taylor Dombach
Emily Duvall
John and Joleen Gamber
Amanda, Brandon, Bryan and Kelly Herr
Dustin Metzler
Kloe Musselman
Toby Palmer
Abby and Shannon Swope
Caleb Young









The Providence Church VBS mission project this year was to raise money to purchase 'The Shoe That Grows'; and they picked CrossRoads churches to distribute these shoes. 200 pairs of shoes were purchased and brought along with VBS supplies to be handed out at Fort Delpeche and Marre, a site for a new church to be built in January 2018. The team that took half of the shoes to Fort Delpeche could not make it on the road due to heavy rain the night before, so a donkey was rented and loaded with the shoes, snacks and VBS supplies. The team planned to do a mini VBS at the church but was disappointed that they could not make it. However, they were excited that the children would have shoes and materials to teach them about Jesus.

Last week Didi, our director, took the remaining shoes up to the church at Marre in the mountains. The children were so excited about receiving these shoes. Thanks Providence Church for your generous donation to help the children of Haiti have shoes.



As we close this edition of the CrossRoads newsletter, our medicine and physical therapy supplies are in a warehouse in Fort Lauderdale and should be soon on the way to Haiti. This is the first time we have used this shipping company and we are cautiously optimistic that everything will arrive in time for our November clinic prep trip. These supplies will be used in our 2018 Medical Clinic. We thank everyone who prays for us and donates so generously to make our clinics a reality.



We pray that the remainder of your summer is enjoyable. This fall we will provide more details on the next set of churches we plan to build and plant. And don't forget about our annual fundraiser on Sunday, September 24 – more details are provided on the next page. God's blessing on you all.



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FUNDRAISER

Sunday, September 24, 2017 11am – 2pm



101 Fite Way, Quarryville, PA 17566
(Route 372, ½ mile west of 222)
Tel: (717) 786-1768

ALL YOU CAN EAT BRUNCH BUFFET

Breakfast Selections
Smoked Brisket
Carving Station
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Soup and Salad Bar
Drinks and Dessert

PRICING

Adults ~ \$15 each
Children 4-10 ~ \$10 each
Children 3 and under eat free
Takeout ~ \$12 each
Donations Accepted

*Cash and checks only
No credit cards accepted*

Baked Goods and Haitian Crafts for Sale

**All proceeds will be used to purchase generators for all
CrossRoads Churches to support evening services.**

Prayer Praises and Requests

Praise for the success of the July VBS trip. Seeds were planted and we pray that many will continue to follow Jesus as their Savior.

Prayer for a safe and timely shipment of medicine and supplies for our 2018 Medical Clinic.

Praise for the faithful support of so many; for standing beside us; for praying with us; and for your generous financial donations.

How to Make a Donation to CrossRoads

Checks may be made payable to: Online at: www.crossroadshaiti.org/how-can-you-help/
CrossRoads Mission HAITI
PO Box 55 Contact us at: crossroadsmissionhaiti@gmail.com
Quarryville, PA 17566

CrossRoads Mission HAITI is a not-for-profit organization.

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