



# Where There is Water There is Life Water for a Dry and Thirsty Land

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Enhancing Trust

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## NEWSLETTER

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### To Enlighten the Children's Lives



A congenital cataract is defined as a clouding of the lens present from birth. The major risk of this pathology is impaired visual development, and it is the most common cause of preventable blindness in children worldwide. It is estimated that worldwide, there are currently 200,000 children who are blind due to cataracts.

"Two years ago, when the doctor told me that my Malaika suffered from this disease, I was so shocked that I passed out!" her 36-year-old mom told us.

Today, despite a severe decrease in visual acuity, this 9-year-old girl attends our Divine Help School of Paswadòm. Over a year ago the glasses Malaika had been wearing broke. For lack of means, poor Jasmène cannot buy her daughter a new pair.

"I pray all the time for my daughter to get well. But I am terribly scared because the pupils of my last-born are now turning white," Jasmène told us with a heartbroken voice.

It is not surprising that Malaika's little brother Obed, 12 months old, also shows signs of this pathology. Indeed, the etiologies of congenital cataract are often genetic and hereditary, linked to metabolic disorders or intrauterine infections.

Whatever the origin, the treatment involves the surgical removal of the cataract lens as well as the adequate correction of the associated lesions. The age of treatment is the most important prognostic factor for visual recovery.

Due to a delay in consultation with parents, but also and especially a lack of systematic screening in maternity, the treatment is often too late, leading to the occurrence of irreversible lesions and blindness.

Congenital cataracts remain a common cause of blindness and / or low vision in Haiti due to lack of proper prenatal care during pregnancies, delayed diagnosis, and management. But there is still hope for Malaika and Obed. Only care and compassion for these two children will be able to help them escape a life in darkness. Please donate toward Water For Life's Cataract Program to enlighten the lives of these children!

### A Prayer of Thanksgiving

In the midst of the financial crisis we are going through in the world where millions of people have lost their jobs and even hundreds of thousands of deaths in many places due to the COVID-19 virus, Jesus is proving to us again His loving power to take care of the needy people in Haiti.



Like the young boy in John 6 who gave to Jesus all he had, five loaves of bread and two small fishes, we praise the Lord for all WFL prayer partners and financial supporters who keep giving faithfully during this time of uncertainty to help people they don't even know. Because of your compassionate hearts and the gracious love of Jesus in you, from June through September we have drilled 53 new wells and repaired 231 pumps, allowing around 100,000 people to continue to have access to clean water for drinking, bathing and washing hands to protect them against the virus and many other microbes. We praise the Lord for all of you!!

A prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord and a big thank you to all of you donors as we have today our third rig and water truck in Haiti with a capacity to provide water for around thirty thousand more people this coming year.

We are still confident that the Lord will keep providing through His faithful and compassionate servants the financial resources needed to buy a new pump repair truck and the necessary supplies to keep drilling wells and pumping clean water for the people.



In John 6:11-13, Jesus took the five loaves of bread and two fishes, lifted them up to the Father and blessed them. The crowd of over 5,000 were fed, and 12 baskets of leftovers were collected. It is because of miracles such as this we are resting in the Lord and are greatly confident He will keep providing for the needy people in Haiti through His faithful servants, even as He has for almost 40 years.

We are taking this opportunity to wish all of you **HAPPY THANSKGIVING** and we thank you again for your sacrificial and unconditional giving to the people of Haiti for the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**From Leon's Desk**

Greetings once again to all our wonderful friends! Thank you for your kind words of encouragement as together we share the kindness and goodness of God!

I love this declaration in Isaiah 63:7—*"I will tell of the kindness of the Lord, the deeds for which He is to be praised according to all the Lord has done for us."* (NIV) I will tell you again of how important all of you are in helping the people of Haiti. As a team we can share the wonderful love of Christ Jesus.

The more I understand of God's love for me, the more I can love others! I keep praying for God's wisdom and knowledge to understand His love for me. We can't measure God's love other than as the song goes—"from one scarred hand to the other!" God's love for Jesus is the same as His love for me; how do I know that? He was willing to have His own Son die in

**— September 2020 Statistics —**

- Wells Drilled: **20**
- Hand Pumps Installed: **4**
- People Served: approximately **1,400**
- Hand Pumps Repaired: **80**
- People Served: approximately **28,000**
- WFL School Meals Served: **8,449**

my place that I deserved so I could have His eternal life! The price for my life was His life!! That is immensely powerful! In John 17:26, Jesus is speaking with the Father and He says, *"I have made You known to them and will continue to make You known in order that the love You have for Me may be in them and that I Myself may be in them."* Wow. So be encouraged as we reflect on His great love for us!



I have a great story to tell you of a new friend and supporter of Water For Life; he called from his home in Kansas and told me of a plan he had to raise money to drill a well for a village in Haiti to have good clean water.

Jim Miller has had the vision over the years of celebrating each new decade in life by doing a special fundraiser activity. This summer he celebrated 70 years and decided to do a really big fundraising effort—he would ask people to support his effort to walk a total of 70 miles (no, not all at once!) with Linda, his wife, at his side in her motorized scooter due to her disability from MS, with the goal of raising \$5,000 so a village in Haiti could have good clean water to drink! Jim has been a pastor and has served in several churches in Nebraska and Kansas, and among them he found some enthusiastic support!

I'm sure he has many stories he could tell of those hours they spent on the road walking in the heat of summer for such a great cause! What an exciting moment when he was able to send the money for the well!! And what a great idea!! So maybe that might inspire some of you to think of a creative way you can help a whole village!!

~Leon

**— Baby Bundles Needed! —**

We always can use baby bundles, gifts given to pregnant moms, made up at any time of the year for us to send on a container! Contact our Iowa office for details as to what to include. Thank you!!

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