



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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The Best Gift One Can Receive: The Smile of a Happy Child!

In recognition of your support for Water For Life's well drilling program in remote villages in Haiti, we share the joy and gratitude of hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries through the smile of young Woodmia.



She is only 13 years old, but she already carried on her frail shoulders the heavy responsibility of supplying water to her home.

Thanks to the newly installed well in her village of Bazelais, South Haiti, Woodmia will no longer have to travel long distances through mountainous and rocky paths in search of what her family needs to survive.

The weight of a 5-gallon bucket filled with water remains heavy on her

head, yet Woodmia rejoices today because, thanks to this new water well, the distance to be covered is considerably reduced. Now she can get back home much more quickly, and she has time to study and even enjoy her adolescence.

2021 will forever be engraved in her mind as a year marking a new era, that of freedom and hope.

As a donor, you have helped bring joy to this child and to thousands of other children, so this smile is for you!

Grateful for Your Support!

Economic misery, associated with political instability, has a significant impact on Haitian children, especially in terms of health and education.

In Haiti, only half of the children are enrolled in a primary school and only 22% reached secondary school (UNICEF 2013). This is because 92% of schools are private, often leaving the family unable to pay school fees. In addition, uniforms, books and other school materials are, in many cases, too expensive for most parents.



It turns out that many rural disadvantaged parents, in an attempt to better their children's lives or simply to reduce the number of mouths to feed, will send them to urban areas to integrate into better-off families hoping they will have access to schooling, food and lodging in return for their doing household chores. However, these children frequently are unpaid, NOT enrolled in any school, and abused in multiple ways.

Thanks to your support, a total of almost 600 children have access to good quality Christian academic education

— Share Your Prayer Requests —

Please share your prayer requests with us. We would be honored to join our hearts with yours before God's throne!

in their hometown instead of being shipped off to become little servants. Because many of you have chosen to sponsor students, these children can continue their education in peace and security. Mikaëlle (in the picture) and dozens of other girls certainly will not have to experience such a life. Many are still waiting to be sponsored; we call on your compassion to help these students who only ask for the chance to continue their schooling.

From Leon's Desk

Greetings to all our wonderful friends! We're now well into the new year; let's always remember that the Lord remains in charge of the whole world. We must not be afraid; He does have everything under control, even though this world appears so upside down. He is the Almighty One. Psalm 33:6 tells us, *"By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of His mouth."* (NIV) Just that one verse is enough to remind us not only of God's creativity, but His utterly immense power. If He could do that He can certainly take care of us, no matter how difficult our situation. We need to *"be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him; [and] not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out wicked schemes."* Ps.34:7 (NIV) As we spend time being still before the Lord and getting to know Him better, we are able to hear His voice.

While we are many times asking God for stuff, many of our Haitian friends are praying for very basic things such as food for the next day and water to drink that doesn't make them sick. They are looking for good clean water for themselves and their families in order to live, while we here are taking life-giving water for granted. Our brothers and sisters need water. Many of you do understand how important water is and have helped to supply clean water for them! These people are just trying to stay alive and to give their children a future. They need the most basic thing, the most important thing on earth other than knowing Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

As Joy and I were living among the Haitian people, we heard their continuous cry for clean water, so that is why we are passing it on to you, to help them by providing wells for them to have clean water. In the village where we first started to work almost 40 years ago, after our drilling several wells in the vicinity the children grew up drinking good water. Parasites became much less of an issue and they grew up much more

healthy than they would have otherwise. Reddish-tinged hair from malnutrition became rare rather than the usual; due to the abundance of water underground in that area, irrigation helped to grow food that had not been available before. Twenty years later, some of these now-grown young adults were invited to a church retreat some distance away, where good water was not available. Not taking any water with them, they drank from the local water supply and got sick. 😞 They returned thankful that they had the good fortune of living in a village with good clean water!



We are so thankful to God that most of the wells we drilled 30+ years ago are still pumping water today, due to our commitment to maintaining and repairing the wells we drill. Like I have said countless times already, together we are a team of God's servants, helping others! We cannot do our work without you! Whatever a person gives, small or large, it all makes a difference! Whether towards drilling a well, or helping our school children, or with our mobile clinic program, together we can demonstrate the love of Jesus to many people!

~Leon

— December 2020 Statistics —

Wells Drilled:	10
Hand Pumps Installed:	18
People Served:	approximately 6,300
Hand Pumps Repaired:	57
People Served:	approximately 19,950
WFL School Meals Served:	4,816 (half-month)

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