

FACING CHALLENGING TIMES IN HAITI

Word has come to us from Mission Evangelique du Nord d’Haiti (MENH) that what was already a dire situation continues to deteriorate. No police or armies offer security, robbers are everywhere, and there is no food. We may try to send funds, but they may have trouble getting to the bank and such a trip may be dangerous to attempt!

Very little gas is available in Haiti. Stations that have gas are selling to friends who then sell to the public in cans at \$12.00/gallon or more. The fare on one of the few Tap Taps (taxis) that are still running has risen from 10 gourde to 300 gourde. Protesters have burned one of the few gas stations in Cap Haitian and have threatened to burn Haiti banks unless the current president resigns. Because of the price and scarcity of gas it has been difficult to bring in food and if it can be found, the prices have skyrocketed. As one pastor wrote, “We are hungry!”

The MENH clinic needs gas for its generator and, when it is available and funds allow, they purchase just one gallon at a time to use when they need electricity for conducting tests. Without fuel to run it, their car sits idle and the MENH administrator has no way to come to work at the office.

Though many medical clinics have closed, MENH is trying to remain open for the few patients that do manage to reach them despite the high cost of what little transportation is available. The cost of pharmaceuticals has risen as well, but the clinic staff do not feel they can pass on the increase to the 3-5 patients they treat each day. Consequently, the clinic is running in the red and is having difficulty paying staff. Before long they, too, will have no choice but to close their doors.

In July, before the situation had reached this current low, President Ebed Paul spent several weeks in Haiti training school staff and teachers for new programs to be launched when school is permitted to start. They will be adding agricultural training, training in entrepreneurship, and personal development programs that include civic engagement. Every student will be required to have a home garden, to be involved in helping the community, and to develop leadership skills. Due to the dangerous conditions at this time, the start of school has been postponed until October 3. However, there is some question if it will be any safer then.

Despite facing these extreme challenges, Mission Evangelique du Nord d’Haiti also has ample reason to rejoice. MENH schools have made considerable progress and are gaining recognition in the country. The Plaine du Nord elementary school had the highest scores in the region on national exams in June beating out all other schools, both public and private. The number 2 and number 3 schools were MENH schools at the towns of Duty and Mourn Rouge. The Plaine du Nord school won the regional soccer championship, and their school band was recognized as the best band in the region.

While President Ebed was in Haiti the Plaine du Nord church held its annual Harvest Festival preceded by five nights of camp meetings that were well attended. Several responded to the gospel message and a baptism service was held on the last night. Between 500 and 600 attended the Sunday Harvest Festival at which they raised about \$1,500 toward construction of a church building. The picture to the right shows the tent where the festival was held. This tent is also where the church members currently meet for services. Unfortunately, transportation issues prevented bringing or meeting with all the MENH church pastors as they had hoped to do.



OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH JULIAN ORIMBO IN KENYA



Julian leads a daily 45-minute Bible study for the teens.

One of the Oduwo church members is a police officer who is doing evangelism among his colleagues. He needs Bibles in both English and the vernacular for distribution among them.

The photo to the right shows several of his colleagues receiving Bibles.

Introducing Mzee Oluoch

Mr. Oluoch is an elderly Christian man who lost the use of his legs due to a snakebite. Julian's church has been caring for him including providing his food. In August his house fell in on him following heavy rainfall. He almost lost his life. Church members rushed to his aid and then constructed a place for him to stay.



Praises & Prayer Concerns

- * Praise God for Julian's recovery from a bout with blood clots requiring hospitalization;
- * Praise for sufficient rain that has produced a maize crop and allowed for the planting of beans;
- * Pray for Mzee Oluoch and the other vulnerable elderly in their care and for the resources to continue to provide for them;
- * Pray for the resources needed urgently to put up the required structures for the junior secondary school;
- * Pray for wisdom as Julian seeks a way to encourage greater local support for the work.

Other Ways You Could Help

- * 1 box of 24 Bibles in the local language = \$240;
- * Food support for 350 people or more = \$500 – \$600/ month depending on the harvest;
- * Junior secondary school construction required by Ministry of Education = \$2,000;
- * School fees for high school girls = \$440/term. The third term began September 21st.
- * Please call to discuss other ideas that may have come to mind as you read about Julian's vital ministry to this area.

NEWS BRIEFS FROM OUR INDIAN PARTNERS

Pastor Frank:

“We thank and praise God for leading and guiding us.... Though there are many challenges, still we see the miraculous hand of God steering us through every situation.” We had asked you to pray for a resolution to a case involving Pastor Frank’s church. It was recently settled in their favor. He wrote to say, “We thank the Lord for His grace for this favorable verdict.” He also wrote that they have been able to resume the weekly fasting prayer meetings that had to be suspended at the start of the pandemic, and he noted that “all 100 children in the homes are in school and doing well.”

Jehovah Shammah Children’s Home and affiliated ministries (JSCH):

David, JSCH President, shared that each of the eleven pastors with whom he works conducts Sunday school and worship services every Sunday, holds prayer meetings twice a week, leads special two-day prayer services every three months and special gospel meetings annually. They also regularly participate in street preaching, home visitation and distribution of Christian literature. He added that the 18 children who recently arrived at the home are doing well. (photo – recent gospel meeting led by pastor Rajesh)

Prayer Concerns:

- * For fruitful ministries despite the harassment and threats from those who are hostile to the gospel message;
- * For not only the physical but also the spiritual growth of the children.



GOOD NEWS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN ACCRA, GHANA

Even after Good News Theological Seminary (GNTS) was accredited it has had to have a sponsoring institution. The sponsor would determine when GNTS could hold graduations and other activities. Now GNTS has applied for a charter which, if approved, would allow for greater autonomy. They have been working on required reports and preparing for on-site visits during the summer. Among the requirements to qualify would be having a sufficient library, online library services, and an adequate computer lab. East West InterKnit was able to provide for the purchase of some computers. EWI also continues to ship boxes of books for the library and to support the publication of educational material. Pictured here is their computer lab including six new computers made possible by East West InterKnit donors.



Dr. Oduro reported that the economy has been hit hard by the Ukraine and Russian war. This makes it difficult for sponsoring churches to meet their commitments to the school, but in his latest note he reported that some have now made the effort and others have promised. The poor economy also impacts the recruitment of students and makes the availability of scholarships even more important. The fall semester began on the 5th of September with 43 students many of whom will need scholarships.

Praise Items:

- * For the marriage of Dr. Oduro's youngest daughter;
- * For quality time spent with visitors during the summer.

Prayer Concerns:

- * For successful completion of requirements for chartering;
- * For publication of the African Instituted Church's history book;
- * For the resources to meet the many needs of Good News Theological Seminary.

You may help EWI (without adding a cent to the cost of your purchase) by placing your online orders through **Amazon Smile** at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1772214>.

If you wish to make a contribution using your credit card or via ACH transfer, you may do so safely and securely through the EWI link to **VANCO** on our website. You would then receive a receipt from **VANCO** for tax purposes.

Please contact us by email if you would like to donate books, supplies or equipment that you believe East West InterKnit can use in support of our partner ministries.

To make a **stock donation** contact us at 651-765-2550 for details.

EAST WEST INTERKNIT NEWS is a regular publication of

East West InterKnit
P.O. Box 270333
St. Paul, MN 55127

Phone: **651-765-2550**

Email: info@ew-interknit.org

Director: **Annette L. Jones**

Web: <https://ew-interknit.org>

East West InterKnit is a 501(c)3 non-denominational evangelical organization registered in the state of Minnesota. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.