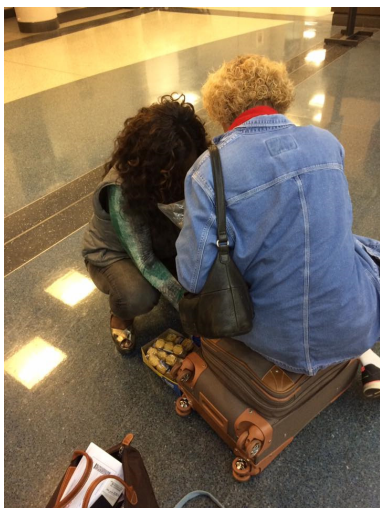


Holy Spirit Haiti Mission Trip Report Dec 29, 2016 –Jan 5, 2017

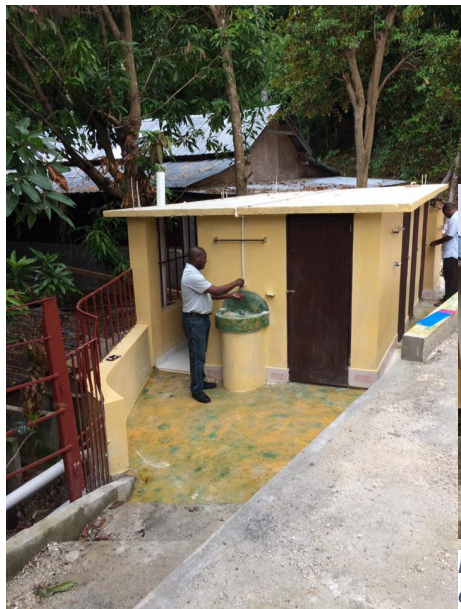
HSHM Day 1-Vivian and I leave HTSV this morning at 530a on the way to PAP. Vivian who has a huge heart tries to bring her whole house to Leogane when she visit the orphanage. We each have 3 bags at 50 lbs each and another 50 lbs of carry on. Vivian the eternal optimist is 13 lbs over on one of her bags so she and Kathy are "repacking" a carry on that is already overflowing.



I know we'll get this all in there!

HSHM Day 2-the road is as promised. Bone jarring with dust so thick from big buses going south we have to stop for it to clear least we go in a ditch. I pray for those that live on these roads as it can do their lungs no good. We are on the road at 4a. Pitch black on roads that are a combination to Touin, Baudin and Darborne for those of you who have been here. We arrive at 7:15a to greet Renel Noel a great missionary whom I have been working with for several years but have never met. He is the one who lives in Miami and ships all our big stuff into the county. He has a very nice home 20' from where he was born 63 yrs ago. Over eggs, bagels and coffee we spent the next two hours talking about our respective work. Besides Bertone's company, time with this man is a very close moment for me. Bertone is very impressed with this man as am I. finally we do an accounting of the 32 boxes and 4 tires we came to collect and pack it into the land cruiser and are off by 10:15a. PaP is at least 6 hrs away half

over the same brutal road. In Gros Moane we stop for a library break and to check the roof rack. A local pastor Nico said hello to Bertone and before I knew it we had a full conversation going about a water purification system. Sadly he did not have a water source for his school and church but we gave some suggestions and Ancy's phone number and the LWW website. We're only half way on the brutal road. Another 20 miles and a new sound occurs. We've lost part of a bushing on our stabilizer bar. I jury rig it with some rubber I found on the road but it doesn't last long. Fortunately it's not critical. Finally the good road in Gonaives where we began at 4a. I take over driving and by 5p we are 5 miles from the PaP airport only to sit in traffic for 2.5 hrs making about 4 of the miles. God was giving me patience practice today. At last we break free and navigate through PaP to show up at NDC by 8:30p. We pass some info onto Vivian who is leaving tomorrow and head up to the monastery 30 min away. 18 hrs later I'm finally in bed by 1030 praising God we had no other problems short of the bushing. Tomorrow we put the shipment into the warehouse and begin the roof project.



The new latrine facilities at PAV School



Fre Arie & Bertone discussing gutter systems



Fre Arie & Bertone planning gutter project

HSHM SAT DAY 3- A much easier day beginning with Matins and the rosary with the brothers at 530a. One of my favorite things to do here. Then breakfast and a discussion with Fre Arie regarding water collection and rebuilding of the school outhouses. Not

real exciting but important stuff and he has done a bang up job for the kids. The picture shows what they just did and it should last a while. You're looking at the boy's side and the girls are inside on the left with a shower. All tiled and nicely painted. Remember the 36 boxes we picked up yesterday? Well they had to be unloaded and carried up 15 stairs and down 14 more. Premium Haitian labor doing this job-Bertone and me. It's a good weight loss program. Onto NDC to eat another of Eliane's fabulous meals and then onto serious business of getting the well pump working. It's been out for 10 days. It was a good training session for Bertone in troubleshooting. It turned out to be a break in the wire at about 50 ft. almost like something had chewed through the insulation. So by 5p the two 600 gal tanks were being refilled. We began some preliminary work on the roof and have a go forward plan. Bertone and I leave about 545p to take the 25 min trip back to the monastery except market day in Dufort which began today early and should have been long done was still going on and traffic was not moving fast. I have never seen so many people out as they are tonight. I'm writing this listing to music going on all down the valley. I'm thankful to be behind the stone walls as it is crazy outside tonight. Happy New Year to all. Grace and peace.



Bertone & Samuel discussing tile project



Bob & Guivenson



Bob and Mikessy - Godchild

HSHM Day 4 Sun- Bon Anee from Haiti. I actually slept till 5 this morning. Struggled with a little stomach problem and questioned risking going to mass in Leogane with no toilet close by but asked the Lord for help and he gave it. This is the first time I can say I have been truly



The girls and Bob after mass

out of a compound and on my own. Mass was very nice and the priest was very engaging as I observed others in the room not that I could understand anything. The entrance to the church is across the road to the turn off to NDC and so I walked back to NDC. I miss my 3 mile morning walks and this one was less than a mile. I was thinking about something because I walked right by the road to turn into NDC and went another 100yds finally realizing what I had done. The road looks different when you're not driving. I spent the whole rest of the day discussing projects with people. First was Ronald and James to discuss roof repairs which are turning out more extensive that I had first thought. Next with Eliane talking about sustainability of NDC in 2017 and then with Samuel discussing 2nd floor tiling project. These discussions were critical to their success as several things came forward that were not so easily transmitted in an email. It was certainly hot

today but I hardly broke a sweat going back to the monastery to eat dinner and figure out how much money to transfer tomorrow morning. Happy New Year!

HSHM Day 5- Mon - this trip has been very out of character for me as I usually have one or two major projects to build and/or oversee. On this trip half my time is committed to HSHM and half committed to Living Waters for the World (LWW). Most of you do not know that I am the LWW



Fre Jones, Eliane, Dr. Yanne, Bertone discuss garden project

Network Coordinator for Haiti which means I have the responsibility of managing, training & overseeing all the LWW operations in Haiti including our crew of 7, our warehouse and all the financial aspects. With just short of 90 active water purification systems in Haiti this can consume some manpower. The day 2 trip to PaPx was for LWW to restock all the equipment Hurricane Matthew took out. So one of the most important lessons I have learned over the years and is so eloquently documented in Ashley Goad's paper Minding The Gap is strong relationships must be formed and reformed before anything effective can be done else you have a house of cards. I don't get to do that as much when overseeing projects so this trip has been all about working with people to get the job done when I have left. I had full intentions of overseeing fixing the NDC roof but the damage is more extensive than thought so about half of today and some of yesterday was working toward making sure we had the correct resources to do the right. The other thing that I did was one of my favorites (besides eating Eliane's lunches) was getting Haitians to speak with Haitians. This may seem strange at first but I believe God uses me as a conduit to match needs and resources together. Such as it was today

when Fre Jones (pronounced Jonas) who is now the superior of the PFST agriculture facility in Hinche. For 5 years I watched this man work teaching peasants in the country and then ride his motorcycle further up the mountain to the U of Fondwa to take night classes. He was graduated about 1.5 yrs ago and now is in charge of a very important facility but still finds the time to come to Leogane (about 4 hrs away) to help Eliane. Once I got everyone talking around the table I stepped away and in a couple of hours we had the skeleton of a plan to first train 10-12 girls in gardening over 3 days or so. Then we will ask Fonkoze to do some business development training and then the clearing and preparation and planting of the garden will begin. This project is very important as it is the beginning of a long term sustainability program we are in the first stages of implementing. After Fre Jones departed we spent some more time fixing and checking and then back to the monastery about 6:30p. After diner Fre Olizard and I had agreed to sequester ourselves for a serious discussion. We opened with a prayer for guidance, wisdom and peace. You my readers must understand that we are as close to each other as any two people can be but do not always agree on how things should be done. Different cultures and ways of doing business often make this even more challenging. For the first time in quite a while we had a very honest and open discussion about several topics that were weighing heavily on both of our minds. All I can say is the Lord was with us as we departed that evening with a much better understanding and a long hug. Thanks be to God!

HSJM Day 6-Tue - Matins at 5:30 with the brothers, breakfast and then off to NDC to meet for the day with Ancy, Bertone, Lucson, Salien, and Reginald. Good meeting with lots of quality discussion. This is the crew that put the LWW systems back together after Hurricane Matthew. This is the crew that is proactively seeking better ways to increase sustainability for a generation. I am blessed to know all of them and I am very proud of them. That evening after dinner I had an opportunity to speak with Fre Arie. He is the second in charge of the PAV

monastery and the headmaster of the school. What is unique about this is our normal conversations last about 30 sec because I cannot carry on any more French or Kreoyl than that and he knows no English. Perhaps 10000 years ago man tried to construct the Tower of Babel to reach heaven and for their trouble God made different languages for each of them. Since then there has not been a tool for the ignorant like me that are language challenged that will allow effective conversation until Google Translate. I know that it has been around for a while but the past year or so they have had a significant breakthrough in technology to the point that if the words are properly spelled the translation is virtually perfect. This is one of the greatest gifts God has given me. Arie and I talked about the school and his family and other matters that were not possible to discuss without a translator. I really enjoyed getting to know more about him. So we spent the evening passing the iPhone back and forth he typing in French and me in English. I really like Fre Arie but have never been able to know him on this level. Thanks be to God.

HSHM Day 7 - Wed- Matins at 530a then breakfast and then on to Leogane to find some missing hardware for the well. Today is day 2 of the LWW team meeting and I have three candidates to interview for a technician job in Les Cayes. So I split the guys into two teams and the assignment was to produce a business plan for a standard water system without solar. This exercise is the heart of the LWW system management plan document and the core of a sustainability program. To sweeten the pot \$20 was put on the table for the winners. So the guys went off to build their plans and Ancy and I interviewed. At the end of the morning the proper candidate stood out clearly but the last time we did this it was not so obvious. Just before lunch we called the boys back together so they could present their plans. I could not believe what happened next. There are two components to the plan, personnel responsibility and fiscal components. One team presented one part and the other presented the other part. Collectively they had produced a great plan so I split the money among the four and all were happy. After another of Eliane's great lunches we dug into the balance sheet part of the plan and when finished all were very comfortable that they could do this process for their clients. That was my goal. To manage sustainability we have to convince and teach our Haitian partners how to run their water systems as a business because there are 'No Free Lunches'. It's not always easy when you are working with the impoverished and those with minimal education, but if we are to make systemic changes it must begin with education and especially education in fiscal matters. The guys left and I hugged Eliane one more time. I have really enjoyed my time with her on this trip, something I rarely get to do as much as I want. We're moving forward with the tiling of the second floor project, the garden project in underway, we have a handle on the roof project and are awaiting proformas for labor. We have laid plans for future sustainability and so now my work is done for a while as our in country folks take over. For me the trip had been very rewarding because much has been accomplished through teaching. Grace and peace.

HSHM Day 8 Thur- looks like my body is back on normal hours. Up at 430. Last Matins with the brothers. Good breakfast and discussion with Fre Olizard about the PFST building their own water system. This is another milestone that I have dreamed about for some time and in fact was discussed by the team yesterday. We still have a few things to do to get there but the fact that the Haitians are even asking is a great sign. Bertone and I leave PAV about 8:30a for a meeting in Carrefour with Crystal Funk who is the President of Hearts United with Haiti. An amazing woman who spends about half her time in Haiti and half in PA. Very committed to working with orphanages and it is one of these orphanages in Les Cayes that Matthew damaged the water system that prompted the discussion. Bertone and I go on to try and find a Land Cruiser part. And then to the airport to hurry up and wait. I'm sad to say goodbye to my brother but anxious to see Kathy.

HSHM Day 8- evening- home again to my Kathy whom is so supportive in this venture and to whom I am so grateful. I am also very grateful to all of you for your prayers, support, greetings and comments. I'm not crazy about leaving the 80 deg weather but the hot shower will sure feel good. Grace and peace.

Bob McCoy – Team Lead HSHM