

HOHAYE

2613 Brnot Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60087

We're on the Web!
www.hohaye.org

This year marks our 20th year anniversary. We have a long way to go. Would you please make a special donation today to help us repair our leadership training center in Haiti?

Anyone who would like to help the mother of nine can make a special donation as well.

You can write a check to HOHAYE or you can go to our website, www.hohaye.org.

If you have a laptop(s) you would like to give away, please donate them to us.

2021 Upcoming Events

This year marks HoHaye's 20 year anniversary. With all the chaos in Haiti we have been in God's hands helping Haitians for 20 years. We would like to celebrate it virtually on June 12 at 6:00pm. Watch for further details.

- ◆ We would like to continue with the tuition program and helping parents who are not able to pay for school for their kids.
- ◆ We hope to give away 150 family kits this year and bless 150 kids with \$25 each.
- ◆ It is also my hope that with your help I will be able to go to Haiti this summer to organize leadership, women leadership, youth leadership, and pastoral leadership seminars.
- ◆ You can give via www.hohaye.org
Or send a tax deductible contribution to HoHaYe at 2613 Brnot Ave. Waukegan IL 60087



HOHAYE December Update

December, 2020

Christmas Party

Imagine with me for a moment. You are a young person living in Haiti. You are either the mother or the father of nine children. You read correctly – nine children! It is December the 21st. You do not have a job. There is no welfare system in Haiti where you can have a guarantee of at least one meal a day for you and your children. You do not have your own place. You find yourself renting just one room with no bathroom, no kitchen, no living room. Can you imagine living in one tiny room with seven other people? That is the situation a mother of nine finds herself in, in the neighborhood of Hohaye



headquarters in Haiti.

When I arrived in Haiti on December 17th, I was extremely tired. Around 8pm as I was trying to get some sleep when I heard some kids singing. What allured and attracted me was the fact that they were happily singing Christian Hymns. When I was in my comfortable bed, I pondered about these voices. I even heard one of them playing the drum. The next morning, Dec. 18th, I heard them singing



again. This time, I called Madame Basha, the owner of the house for an explanation. She is the one who told me what I wrote above. She added that this young mother also had a newborn baby not even a month old.

I told Madame Basha to invite them to come to the Christmas party on December 23rd.

Because of your generosity during a very challenging time, HOHAYE

was able to bless six of her nine children with \$25 US each.

Basically, out of nothing, \$150.00 US entered that mother's one room. It means, these kids were able to savor a decent meal for Christmas.

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In Remembrance

Remember in 2020 we lost two of our most loyal and faithful supporters. God called home Pastor Arthur Gass Sr. as well as Pastor Walstone E. Francis.

Two of the parties we had were in honor of these wonderful men.



Christmas Party

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Another touching story is regarding my older brother's little church in the village of Canaan, Haiti. After serving more than 35 years as an Episcopal priest, he retired two years ago to find himself helping a little church in the village of Canaan where there is no school, no health center, not even good water to drink. I told him to invite twelve of the poorest kids to the Christmas party. They came in and received \$25.00 US each. It was such a blessing that on Sunday, December 27th at his church there were tears of joy.



Let me tell you one more story - The Christmas party had been over for about 30 minutes when a mother of 4 showed up. When she saw that the party was over, she started crying: "I've been on the road for two hours. I could not find any transportation. We walked to get here because my kids had finals today". I teased her and said "It is over lady". A few minutes later, the kids received their gift. You can imagine the mother's joy.



These are the late comers.

After the Christmas party, we blessed 40 adults with a family kit in which we put rice, beans, cooking oil, spaghetti, toiletries, and a traveling kit.



Christmas party pictures - more on page 3



How Christmas Gifts began

Did you ever wonder where the idea of the \$25.00 Christmas gift emanated from? I was 7 years old when a huge cyclone hit Haiti. I used to live in a part of Haiti now called Lamentin 54, Carrefour. It rained for at least three days. Out of nowhere, adult as well as young missionaries came to our rescue. They brought with them clothes, shoes, powdered milk, wheat, among many other items. In good Creole, we were called (sinistré)- disaster victim.

The young missionaries ministered to us young people and the adult missionaries ministered to the adults. The young missionaries

launched a Bible competition that would take place during the Christmas Eve service, chez frere Noel-Eglise de Dieu Mission par la Foi-Church of God by Faith of Lamentin led by brother Noel. The competition was: the one who recites 25 verses would win 25 cents. You hear it well, 25 cents. Remember, it was 1967. That was huge money. Money I had never touched & I won.

In 2002, in one of my mission classes at Trinity International University, a professor challenged us to remember a good deed that we were subject to and think of a way we could pay it forward. For five minutes, the only

deed that kept burning in my mind was the 25 cents I won. How did I pay it forward? In December 2014, we gave \$25.00 to 25 kids. In 2015, we tripled the number - we gave \$25.00 to 75 kids. In 2016, we gave \$25 to 125 kids. In 2018 we blessed 175 kids. In 2019, we blessed 205 kids. This year, we split the blessing between kids and adults. We blessed around 125 kids and gave family kits to 40 adults.

We praise the Lord for your unwavering support. Without you, it would have been impossible to keep doing it.



Thank you!!

To those of you who stepped up to make the 2020 Christmas party in Haiti a reality, I say thank and thank you. I am deeply indebted to Jesus Name Apostolic Church, So Send I You, Lake County Baptist Church, Lindenhurst Church of God, Open Door Fellowship Church in Missouri, Roland Delsoin, Max Delsoin, Daniel Jean, Albert & Helen Moy, Antony Volel, David Vernier, Ketsia Laforest, Johnson Chery, Germanie Chery, Pastor Henry & Judy Yip, Cassandra Bienaime, Eglise Haitienne de la Grace, Belina Jervis, Sybille Saintyl, Rachelle Pochete, Kathiana Jean Philippe, Nadine Simon, Genet

Soiresie, Maryse Soiresie, Antony Boisson, Nancy Bienaime, Murielle Michaud, Nadia Richard, Francoise Jean Philippe, Lake County Board Commissioner Angelo Kyle, the President of Northshore Baptist Ministerial Alliance Pastor Eugene Robertson, Pastor Joseph & Antonine Laine and her co-workers and friends who gave for the Christmas party, the President of the Association of Haitian Pastors of Illinois (APECH) Pastor Joel Metelus, Jacqueline Jose, Marie Renee, Debra (Nancy's client). Dr. Russel and Erika Bishop, Fabiola Vilmenay, Mark A. Frank, Samantha Luk, Nor-

man A. Aronfeld, John S. Appel, Tax Cutters, Reverend Pastor Ray Carter, Rev. Pastor Peter & Julia Leblanc, Rose Marie Renee, Rosalyn Snow, Glen & Margaret Hoover, Thom & Nancy Mannoia, Magalie Oscar, Clyde & Josette Dezir, Accounting Associates, Progressive Casualty Insurance Company of Cleveland Ohio, Penette Similien, Ewald Estanis. A special thanks to Swedish Covenant Hospital (dental office) for giving us toothbrushes and toothpastes. To all the members of HOHAYE and the Bethel Church, I say thank you and thank you.