



Haiti 7

April 2011 - Sept 2011

All smiles Oddy

Photos of Haiti are on facebook: [Cay Merritt - Albums Haiti](#)

Prayer Points:

- For funds to cover rent & school fees = \$17,000
- More teams willing to visit the home.
- Improved health of the children who have illness such as typhoid.
- Decision about feeding program.
- **Praise Points**
- Great trip in July building bunk beds etc.
- Wonderful opportunity to teach the locals & also learn from them.
- Continued interest by those who want to help
- The fencing has started to go up around the kids block of land.

Embargo in the Caribbean

Small team heads to Haiti to build bunk beds:

Three Aussies, one American and one Haitian formed a small team to head to the Good Samaritan Children's Home in North Haiti to build bunk beds for the 24 kids living in. Although there were a few hurdles to jump before even getting to Haiti everything turned out fairly well. One of the things that continues to amaze us is how generous people are and how gracious our God is who supplies all our needs. With an estimated budget of \$15,000 needed for the trip - all of the funds came in from many different sources. Max and Cay had to get creative in Chicago airport when they were told that there was an embargo on the Caribbean and they could only take 2 bags each (and they had 3 each) to Haiti. So they bought another passenger ticket which ensured them passage for another 2 bags. All of the equipment - drills, saws, screws, generators all eventually arrived safely and the good work began at the orphanage. Probably one of the highlights was the small team working with Haitians - and each one learning from each other. Max went through safety of using the equipment and the how to use, Frantz translated, Jochem worked along the drop saw with Jacquelyn and John had a couple of the older boys under his wing guiding them with Antonio in measuring and preparing the wood. Oh and Cay made sure everyone was fed and watered appropriately and cracked the whip from time to time. We ended up making 3 tables, 10 bunk beds, 1 double bed, 1 single bed, 2 sitting benches & 7 storage benches for the food.



2 bunk beds & 1 single in boys room.

Verse for Haiti:

James 1:27 "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this; to look after orphans and widows in their distress & to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Hope brings life

In every community there is work to be done. In every nation there are wounds to heal. Unknown

Kids in USA send clothes to kids in Haiti

Although the kids at the orphanage do have some clothes most of them are wearing thin and constantly need updating as the children grow out of them. Crystal Springs Alliance Church kids kindly donated some of their clothes to the kids at Good Sam's. They were overjoyed at the generosity of the American kids. All of the children now have a set of nice clothes to be able to go to church in.



And don't the girls look pretty in pink?!



And look at these handsome young men - so proud in their new threads.

Volunteer Spotlight :

Frantz Osier was born in Port au Prince on Feb 18th, 1984. He has 3 brothers and 1 sister. He works at "Maison des enfants de Dieu" (The House of God's Children) as an English teacher. We first met Frantz in 2009 when we served in his orphanage for 2 months. Frantz loves to help others and he has a great sense of humour - he loves to laugh. Frantz also helps Good Sam's.

During the 2010 earthquake Frantz's house was damaged and his mum was injured and can no longer work. She used to work in a factory. Frantz's dad used to sell wood in the market but he lost all of his merchandise during the political crisis of 2004. He has been unemployed since then. Frantz's family has eeked out an existence to keep them all sustained.

In 2010 post earthquake Frantz had a dream about a little orphanage in the north of Haiti which he believed the Lord wanted him to help. This set him on a journey, led by the Holy Spirit. Due to Frantz's obedience he came in contact with the "Centre Orphelinat Bon Samaritain" - Good Samaritan Children's Home where he met Dr Wilbert. Frantz knew when he entered the orphanage that this was the one that the Lord was leading him to.



Frantz told Dr Wilbert about his dream and Dr Wilbert told Frantz that they had been praying for someone to come and help them because they could not afford to feed the children that they were trying to help and protect. Many of the children were orphans. Frantz is a passionate, funny yet sensitive fellow. He loves his people and wants to help them where he can. He is a great networker and has made contacts all over the world. Frantz has been studying and sitting English exams. His hope is to study in the USA to become an English teacher and then he wants to come back to Haiti to help orphans. **Please pray for Frantz as he continues to seek the Lord's will for his life.**

A Visit to Haiti by John Dickson

Cay has asked me to give my impressions following our recent visit to Haiti.

I will confine my thoughts to the places we visited and the people we observed and with whom we had contact.

Port au Prince – Haiti's Capital is dirty, smelly,



rubble-strewn and full of people still doing it tough, a year and a half after the devastating earthquake there.

About a million people still live in tent cities and, although the garbage is piling up around them, keep living their lives to the best of their abilities. They must be admired for keeping going under these circumstances.

Cap Haitien – This city is the provincial Capital of Northern Haiti. Although “Cap” was not affected physically by the earthquake in Port au Prince, Cap is still a place of deprivation and struggle. Like the rest of the country.

Haiti was poor before the earthquake and is in an even worse situation now, thanks to the GFC and the non-delivery of promised aid from abroad.

Cap seemed more crowded than P au P, a hot and dusty (yet humid) place, yet somehow more relaxed. The people here do not have the tragedy and destruction of the earthquake facing them day to day but they are still tough and must strive to survive. Despite fierce negotiations, those we dealt with here seemed reasonable and honest in the end. There was no sense of intimidation or hatred.

Trou Du Nord – This “country town” is about 50Km East of Cap Haitien and is where the Orphanage that we came to help is located. Life is still tough here – people have to make do with even less resources than in the cities.

I must pay tribute to the wonderful people who run Centre Orphelinat Bon Samaritain de Trou Du Nord (Good Samaritan Orphanage of Trou Du

Nord). Led by Chef (Dr.) Wilbert, the rest of the staff are a cross-section of some of the people of Trou Du Nord who have volunteered to look after the children. A community that looks after their own, with love - just like Jesus wants us all to do! In Australia, we distance ourselves with paid-professionals.

The children are the hooks that will draw my heart back to Haiti. There are 24 boys and girls who range in age from about 5 to 16 and, despite having lived lives of deprivation of parents, homes and sustenance, can still smile and light up your day. A mixture of innocence and world-weariness that breaks your heart.

Some come from homes where both parents have died, one parent has died or from a home where their parent(s) can no longer afford to look after them. Some have volunteered to leave their home so that their families can continue.

What more can I say?

They need help. My help. Your help.

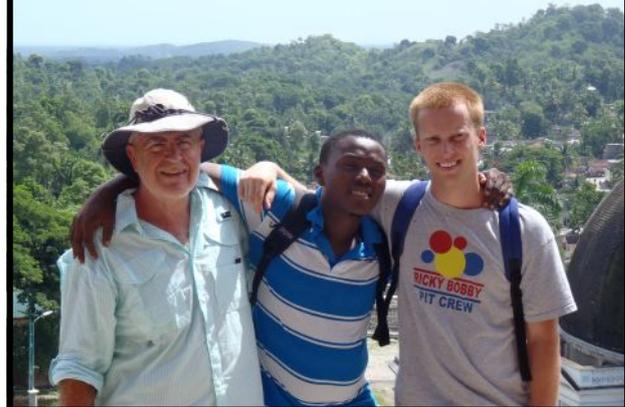
The Apostle James asked us “**to visit & help & care for the orphans and widows in their affliction and need**” (Jms 1:27 AMP).

To help others in deprivation overseas can look overwhelming, but to help just some one is the secret. That's where you start.

John travelling like the locals & with them!



John, Frantz & Jochem at Sans Souci



Crazy tie day fundraiser: Cay's former school organized a crazy tie day to raise money for the Good Samaritan Children's Home. The students engaged in the activity with much creativity and had anything from bow ties, to water pistol ties to rubber chicken ties!! Each student donated a cold coin and if they forgot to wear a crazy tie they had to double their donation!! The students raised \$900 - **a fantastic achievement.** These funds will be used for the upcoming school fees in Haiti. A big thanks to CGS students and staff, Dr Garrick, Dave Smart and Bisika O'Sullivan for organizing the event. **In this photo the winning tie - a rubber chicken. :)**



Land for the orphanage - looking to purchase:



In 2010 the Haitian Government gave the Good Samaritan Children's Home a block of land that they can build an orphanage, small school and medical clinic on. However, we are concerned with how secure the tenure would be on this land. The area is becoming very popular with the Dominicans building a University over the road and the possibility of an international airport going in. Currently, although it is stated that the Govt gives the land to the Orphanage, it is sort of like a lease arrangement and so we are looking to ask the gov't for a purchase price so that the children can feel secure. We will keep you in the loop about this.

We are also continuing to seek ways to raise the money to build. If you have any creative suggestions please feel free to email me cay@maxncay.com or phone **+61 421 855 770.** **Picture of land** - I know it doesn't look very exciting but it is a good size block and it is fairly level and flat. Fencing has started on the block.

Upcoming trips to Haiti:

Many have asked "when will you do another trip?" As aussies the trip over is expensive because of the sheer distance and time it takes. However, we are thinking of a possible trip next year around March 2012. So start saving now or save for 2013!

We are also keen for small American teams who may want to go on a working bee, do a medical trip or help with the fencing of the land. We also need a water purification system put in - remembering that the only power we have is a small generator which is only used when absolutely necessary. At the moment typhoid seems to be a recurring problem for the staff and children. The staff and the children also need encouragement in God's word - so a VBS would be wonderful. If you are interested in forming a small team please do not hesitate to contact me.

To donate: In Australia: *

Direct Debit Banking:

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BSB: **704 922**

Account No: **100 007 659**

Account Name: Hughes Baptist Church

Or send cheque to Hughes Baptist Church *

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To donate: in USA*

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To donate: elsewhere in the world:*

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***Please make sure you mention "For Haiti"**

Tabitha's Circle:



A group of retired ladies in Indiana, USA, get together each month to use their talents for the Lord and do something practical - usually involving sewing. The ladies heard about the children at Good Sam's and

asked what was needed. I requested quilts for the children for their new beds and Sunday dresses for the girls. The group spent the next few months sewing the most beautiful garments and quilts. The dresses have all been delivered to the girls in Haiti - much to their delight. We are hoping to take the quilts the next time we head to Haiti. A big thank you to the wonderful ladies in "Tabitha's Circle"



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Rent and School Fees: It is hard to believe that we started helping the orphanage a year ago & the money was raised for the rent and school fees. The annual rent is \$8,000 for the house and \$400 US for the small block of land next door that is used for the washing and children to play. The school fees are \$8,000. God again has been faithful and we only need to raise \$6,000 more. Normally this money would be due at the beginning of September because that is when school recommences - how coincidental that we don't quite have the funds needed and the Haitian government has just changed the academic year to begin in October?!

If you would like to help out with the rent and school fees please see page 4 for donation details.

Feeding Program Struggles: We have 84 children registered on the feeding program and only 12 sponsors. In order to feed these children we need 200 sponsors. Unfortunately we do not have the capacity to feed all of the 84 children with the funds from 12 sponsorships. How does one decide who should eat and who should not? It is a traumatic decision. At this point, unless we come up with another 188 sponsors at \$5 per week (\$22 per calendar month), we will have to close the feeding program. I would appreciate you praying with us for the Lord's will on this very delicate issue. If you feel you would like to do a fundraiser to come up with more sponsors then I will assist you where I can. I appreciate your prayers and support for the feeding program.



Christian Motorcycle Association NSW donates motorcycle:

They say “a picture paints a thousand words” - well this smile on Dr Wilbert’s face emulates those words. He was overwhelmed with the generosity of CMA NSW and their gift of a motorcycle. Dr Wilbert often visits remote areas to run mobile clinics for the poor. Sometimes he will set up in a church, some times in a little local area and often he will not be paid but he believes in helping his people. In the past he had to catch a tap tap or take a local motorcycle taxi - but it then meant he was restricted to his chauffeurs schedule. Now he can go when and where he needs to. The motorcycle will also be used to transport the youngest 4 children to the orphanage and yes the 4 of them and 2 adults - I



The mighty Haojin 125cc



driving and I on the very back all fit on the motorcycle at the one time!!

“When you give to the poor, it is like lending to the Lord, and the Lord will pay you back.” Proverbs 19:17 GNT

Wow what a privileged position that is. Instead of thinking that we are giving away our hard earned cash we can be certain that we are lending to God and He will repay us. Think about it - it may challenge you in the way you give not only of your finances but also your time and material possessions. (Max, Cay & John on new bike at GSCH)

A word of Thanks:

Many people are unable to “go” but have been willing to give and to pray. A huge thank you for your generous heart and willingness to keep the children, staff and teams in your prayers. Please continue to pray and, if you feel led, give financially. Feel free to also contact us if you have any questions. Bless you - from Max and Cay and the children we serve at the Good Samaritan Children’s Home North Haiti.

For further info: cay@maxncay.com or + 61 421 855 770