

# TAKING THE WORD OF GOD TO HAITI CHRISTIAN MISSION

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## In God We Trust

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## Missionaries

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*"Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place." II Corinthians 1:14 KJV*

Greetings in the name of our Lord! The apostle Paul rejoices in the victory we have in Jesus Christ, which in turn is the very reason we make Jesus known to all those around us wherever we go. We have a good report of what is going on in the mission work in Haiti.

First of all, the big news is that Islande Jacques has recently received her visa to come visit the United States. We are so excited about this because it is a major door opened to help represent Taking the Word of God to Haiti mission. Not only will we get to see Islande in person, but she will also be able to see a fuller picture of the mission work. She will get to see John and Wanda, who are certainly thrilled and rejoicing in the Lord. You know that Islande has been trying for many years to get a non-immigrant visa to the US. She has had 6 previous interviews. But this time God has blessed us with His approval. We have certainly been asking God's will to be done, and now we have His answer. We thank God for this.

Islande will be traveling with me on my return from Haiti on November 4 and stay until November 30. After a long weekend here, she will be with John and Wanda in Illinois for about 10 days, and then finish out her visit with us in Pennsylvania. This will be a long stay and will give many of you time to visit with her if you wish. We are planning a mission presentation here at West Alexander First Christian Church on Sunday night, November 7, at 7 p.m. We have made arrangements to hold another "Meet and Greet" with a mission presentation and question time on Thursday, November 18, at 7 p.m. at the Nashville Christian Church in Nashville, Illinois. If you are within driving distance of either location, we invite you to join us. We are very, very happy about her coming and look forward to meeting many of you at one of these locations. Please keep this in your prayers as she prepares to come. Pray, too, for Islande to not get too homesick for Andy as she is away from him so long. Pray for safety in her travels and for her not to get too cold. Haiti is a tropical country, and 70 degrees is cold for her. This is not the best time of the year for her to come weather-wise, but she is anxious to see John.

Some more good news is that the van (a 1991 GMC ¾-ton cargo van) has been packed and shipped to Haiti. It is at the dock in Gonaives right now and will be in Islande's possession once the paperwork is completed and the customs fees are paid. On August 15, Travis Perry and I drove the van, loaded with about 2500 lbs. of cargo, to West Palm Beach, Florida, and the Monarch shipping yard. We were able to make the 1100-mile trip in 24 hours and flew back to Pittsburgh the next day. That was quite an adventure since it was very hot and we had no air conditioning. The wing-vents on the doors were wonderful. As long as we were moving, we had cooler air. Thankfully, we had no trouble getting there except for an exhaust leak that occurred when the plug on the catalytic converter popped out. It was still safe to drive. Praise the Lord!

Items in this van for the farm project include 25 6' steel t-posts, 330 feet of woven cattle fence wire, a 1000-foot spool of barbed wire (all these being Red Brand, which we have found to hold up much longer in the tropical air); 3 lifetime-warranted, Rubbermaid 100-gallon livestock water troughs for the goats; several extension cords, 100 feet of garden hose, and other various tools. There were also four good, 6-ply, 17" tires for the mission truck and a couple good car jacks. We shipped over nearly 1200 pieces of clothing, shoes, some household and school supplies as well as a few medical supplies. Most importantly, we

bought and sent 300 French New Testaments for the children in the church schools. This is a wonderful way to teach children to read and to learn from God's Word. Thank you for sending special gifts for the purchase and shipment of these Bibles. There are also 16 Haitian Creole Bibles purchased for the preachers and teachers in these churches and church schools. However, they are on back-order, and I should have them to take with me when I make my next trip to Haiti. Your response to help in shipping this van has been overwhelming. Thank you for your powerful and generous support. In the pictures you will see the van being packed by your volunteer help. You will also see the prayer circle around the van before we started the journey to Florida.



I will be returning to Haiti on October 26 with Dave Noble, minister at the Pontoon Beach Church of Christ in Granite City, Illinois. We will return on November 4. During this trip, I hope to visit the Christian Church at La Grammal where Dominique preaches. I want to verify that the van supplies are accounted for, and encourage the churches in general.

Islande has brought it to my attention that there are many little children in Gonaives who were orphaned in the floods two years ago. People in the mission churches have been doing what they can to help these little children, but to take them into their homes and provide all their needs is an overwhelming burden for most. These children are often on the streets, looking for food and help wherever they can find it. Islande would like to establish an orphanage in Gonaives to help these children. We are talking about true orphans. For children who have a parent, we try to help them with food and clothes to keep the family intact. An orphanage may be a direction the Lord wants us to help out here. However, we do not have the funds to do so now. This can only be a decision based on your response to this. What can be done on a small scale is to rent or buy a house in Gonaives, then pay a mother to take care of ten orphan children. These would be pre-adolescent children so they can be brought up in a Christian home. To start out with older children who are set in their ways would be too big of an undertaking, at least for now. Perhaps to work with 2 or 3 moms would be manageable locally. The additional cost to the mission would be the rental or purchase of a house, the salary for the moms, the food, clothing, medical and educational expenses for the children, as well as the initial cost of furnishing the house. We are trying to ascertain what those monthly costs of operation might be, as well as the initial expenses. Please pray with us about the Lord's will for this idea. Let us know your thoughts.

School has resumed, so I am back to driving school bus most of the time. We had a booth at the local fair the week of Labor Day. The church has resumed its full slate of activities this fall. Mary Ann and I are leaving tomorrow for a few days of vacation and will return on October 11. We are looking forward to having John Skorczewski's grandson, Justin Nehr Korn, preaching our revival October 17-20. He will be accompanied by his wife and Dustin Leming, who together make up the trio, The Nehr Korns. They will present a gospel concert here on October 20. I will then have a few days to prepare for my trip to Haiti. So life is busy! We appreciate your prayers for us so that we may be good stewards of our time and accomplish all we need to for the Kingdom.

Thank you for all your prayers and works of faith through the mission. *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."* Hebrews 11:1 KJV

In Christian love,

*Bruce Druff*