



Haiti Headlines

News from Beth Newton

March, 2015

Dear friend,

It would be great to have a little visit with you, and hear how you're doing.

Has it been a tough winter for you? How are you feeling? And your family?

This is the season that some could be jealous of our weather here in Haiti. We feel refreshingly cool at 75 – 85 degrees. It's cool enough for veggies in the garden, and we're harvesting lettuce, tomatoes, and a few green beans. Susanne has great knowledge and joy in getting the most out of our garden. We have papaya, lemon/lime and a Caribbean fruit, cashiman or custard apple, which all make great juices these days. We'd be happy if you could enjoy them with us.

We have to water our garden on some days, and pray for God's mercy for **needed rains in good supply** for farmers here. The farmers have been waiting for enough rain that they can plant a crop.

Thank you for your prayers for God's help and grace in my work here. We just finished a record breaking week of surgery. The log book says there were 66 surgeries done. Wednesday the O.R. team with Dr. Bill TenHaaf did 26 surgeries – an all-time record.

We thank the Lord for healing for Dr. Bill and continued strength. He will have another scan done shortly. He was here with three friends from Grand Rapids who all pitched in, one helping in the operating room, another preparing meals, and another keeping the equipment running. Thank you Travis, Kim and Dan!



The Diabetes club members in the chapel.

February 18 we started a new health initiative, a "Diabetes Club", which meets weekly for 12 weeks. We are hoping to teach and care for the club members, to bring them to optimism and motivation that they can control their blood sugars. Glucometers and test strips have been too expensive. Insulin is expensive here (about \$20), as it is around the world. We've received some gifts to help. Most Haitians with diabetes are resigned that they will one day have an amputation. Teaching about diet and exercise will help. Our 20 club members are coming faithfully and are encouraged. Two of our hospital nurses, Corrine and Catherine, are helping with the club and enjoying the enthusiasm of our patients. Let me know if you'd like to help some patients purchase their medications and lab tests.

I went to the hospital this morning, Sunday, knowing that every bed is full, thinking that there might be a good number who would enjoy going to the hospital chapel for "church". What a great time to sing and pray, and hear a word from the Lord. A gentleman name **Lanose** sat up quickly. I helped him with his shoes and he got in the wheel chair. We were talking as we entered the chapel, and he said he had decided to accept Jesus as his Savior after he had his surgery. He wanted to do it today.

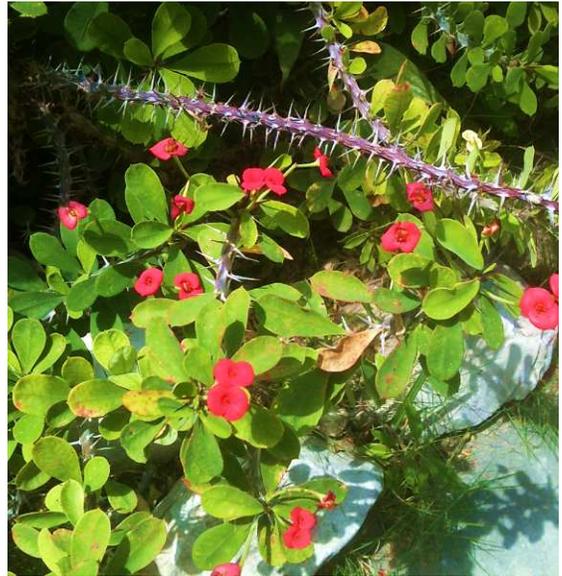
At the end of the service, Dr. William asked if any wanted to put their faith in Jesus. Lanose raised his hand. It was thrilling to hear him pray, clearly and simply. God used many people in his life to bring him to this moment of grace. We gave him a letter to introduce him to a church and pastor in his neighborhood. We pray he will be **drawn into that church family and encouraged to grow in his faith.**



Lanose in the hospital chapel.

Thank you, Jesus

- 14 Bible club helpers worked with 180 children on Friday afternoon at the Torbeck church. Children's lives are being changed. 12 helpers were able to come Monday afternoon and hear a great training from CEF worker, Vionel. There will be one training session each month for 4 months.
- The directors of a surgical residency in Cap Haitian have agreed to take two of our Haitian physicians for a four year surgical residency. This is an unusual open door. It will begin in December, 2015. We **pray for God's continued direction and provisions.**
- A couple from Midland, MI are in application to come as missionaries to Les Cayes. The gentleman is a nurse practitioner. He has asked his evangelical mission if he can give some of his working hours to join us in training Haitian nurses to be nurse practitioners.
- Health, safety, and faithful supporters who help provide for my daily expenses.
- Much thanks for God's blessings to my dear parents who will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary, April 21st.



A Haitian flowering cactus called, "Crown of Thorns". Jesus wore that for each of us.

Thank you for serving with me through your prayers.

May God be glorified. *Beth*

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Praying together

- **April 8-12 the annual convention** of our Haitian church association, the MEBSH, will be broadcast across the country of Haiti. It's a great opportunity for sharing God's truth. Join me in praying for **changed hearts in people of influence here in Haiti**, just like Zacchaeus, who heard from Jesus and his heart was changed.
- We pray the Lord of the harvest for **physicians who would come for a training ministry** with our three Haitian physicians who remain while the other two are in residency. This could be a short-term or long term assignment. If they have already served in Haiti, that would be a great blessing.



"Innovative teams multiplying disciples and communities of believers, bringing the Gospel within reach of lost people everywhere we go."