



# THE VALCINS



Gersan Preaching at The Village Church

## Dear Ministry Partners –

A lot has happened since our last newsletter! We have had two teams come and our church in Port-au-Prince moved to a new location. We pray that you are blessed as you read now how your partnership with us is touching so many lives!

Serving the King –  
Gersan and Betty Valcin

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## A NEW HOME FOR THE VILLAGE CHURCH IN PORT-AU-PRINCE

In March, 2017 there was a great celebration for the one year anniversary of the founding of Valcin's new church in Port-au-Prince! The name given to this church is The Village Church. Village carries the concept of a family or a clan – a closeness of people to each other. Most Haitians living in the city have their roots back in a village. When one might be challenged with a problem, Haitians think about going back to the village to look for the solace and environment to think through the challenges of life. So, the connotation of The Village Church is where there is a closeness of family and where the answers in life can truly be found, since we know that it is the Lord that has the answers to all the questions about our lives.



The Village Church

Now the Lord has provided a new home in the town of Petionville for The Village Church to meet! This is the wealthiest town in Haiti as it is where all the businesses moved to or started up after the earthquake in 2010. We've placed signs all over town about our church and so there are a lot of new visitors every Sunday. Even the media broadcasters have heard about it and so they are coming to see what it is like!

Our new location is in a big conference room in the restaurant called Le Villate. The restaurant is closed on Sunday so we enjoy the use of this building without distraction! Right now there is one service from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. but in September we are changing our schedule to have our first service from 6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and then a second service from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. As a main focus for this church there is an emphasis being put on family life and developing strong Christian families.



Communion

As a body of believers, we have an intent to be very assertive in presenting the gospel to this town. So, in September, we will hold an evangelistic outreach in the public square. The format will include Delly Benson, one of the best Christian singers in Haiti, one testimony, Gersan's preaching and an invitation to receive Christ. And of course, we will invite people to then come each Sunday to The Village Church!

# FOUNDRY UMC BLESSES JACOB'S WELL AGAIN!

## Water and Electricity Restored at Jacob's Well

After struggling for almost a year with the water pump to our well not working properly, we experienced "a miracle" in the form of a team of electricians from East Texas. Shaun Shaw and Al Kitchen are professional electricians and their visit was like "a rain from heaven"! Konrad Meinardus also accompanied them. This team was able to install our new water pump and rewire almost the complete Jacob's Well campus! This new wiring now allows the proper amount of power to be flowing to everything that needs power on the campus and especially our radio and TV station! We are eternally grateful for all the work that was accomplished by the team of electricians from Grapeland, Texas!



Allen and Shaun



Konrad Stringing Wire

# MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH SOCCER

Two American teams came and brought with them around 100 soccer balls that came from a wonderful organization called “Kick for Nick”. With this large supply of balls, we were able to start a soccer tournament in two different towns – Port Margot and Limbe!

In Port Margot, a town about 15 miles from Jacob’s Well, Gersan met with the town mayor and school principals in a wonderful gathering to distribute these soccer balls! From this distribution, in May many teams were formed and a soccer tournament between schools was organized. Port Margot really “came alive” with the spirit behind these games and it gave us a greater opportunity to share the gospel with this town.



The Winning Team



The Junior Team



Officials

Our second distribution of balls was in Limbe, a town about 5 miles from Jacob’s Well. This gift of many soccer balls also provided the basis for a soccer league to begin to develop. In July, the teams were formed and the games began at a big soccer field in Limbe. They will be playing all summer with 10 teams competing. This also spearheaded a girls soccer team to be started in the village of Ti Guinea, the village next to Jacob’s Well. A group of Haitians living overseas joined with some Haitians living in Limbe to provide some soccer trophies for the winners of the tournaments.

We are looking forward to all the possibilities of how we can expand the fun sport of soccer through bringing soccer coaches to Jacob’s Well. In hosting some soccer clinics, we would have the wonderful opportunity to share about the Lord to many young people!

## FOUNDRY UMC BLESSES JACOB'S WELL AGAIN!

After several years of teams coming to Jacob's Well, there was a desire of 8 high school kids to do a 3 week internship in Haiti. They prepared the VBS message and organized the supplies plus had various other leadership roles and responsibilities. So they spent the 1<sup>st</sup> week in Port-au-Prince to see a different part of our culture and ministry. They started by developing friendships in playing basketball with kids in the PAP neighborhood. Next they spent some time with The Village Church youth group and prepared a message with the teens about worshipping God alone not material things, celebrities, status, or any of the other world things we elevate as idols in our lives. We couldn't be prouder of them! They finished their stay in PAP with a visit to the house of Pastor Wallace and his wife, a U.S. missionary family who has been in Haiti since the late 1950's. They also visited an orphanage.



Foundry Team of Interns

**Vacation Bible School** – During the 2nd week of the Foundry trip, the entire team of 20 more Foundry members came! It was a blessing to have the Foundry youth and adults invest in the children's lives. Several village kids with whom the Foundry team had shared the gospel with in the past were now able to share the gospel back to team members! It was a blessing to see how the village is changing and kids are loving and serving Christ. Pray for these children for the Holy Spirit to continue to work in their hearts. VBS was held in two locations this year - at Jacob's Well and at Psalm 23 church in Limbe. Approximately 325 children were at the Jacob's Well location and about 200 children came to the Psalm 23 church location. This is always such a highlight for the children as it includes drama of various Bible stories, and outdoor sports such as archery, riflery and soccer!

**Medical Clinic** – Foundry funded a medical clinic and Valcin's recruited Ruth Joseph who is a professional nurse practicing in Port-au-Prince to come and lead the medical clinic. Ruth was not only healing them physically but also used this as a ministry opportunity to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. She spent extra time with each patient tending to their souls and asking them about their personal relationship with Christ. She even had an opportunity to minister to the Voodoo priest's wife who sought out medical assistance. The Foundry team included a nurse who assisted Ruth for the 3 day clinic and they served approximately 250 people. People came from as far away as Cap Haitien (45 miles away) to come to this clinic. People paid a very small fee of less than \$2 US to have an appointment with this nurse. The funds that were raised will go to the Jacob's Well Evangelical Vision Church that we have planted there here in our village of Ti Guinea and the plans are for the money to be used to purchase a sound system.



Ruth Joseph

**Sewing Clinic** – The Foundry team founded a sewing clinic last year with the donation of several sewing machines and the first ever sewing classes! Over 15 ladies from the village of Ti Guinea were excited to come again and this time they were sewing purses. The Foundry views this as an opportunity to invest in the lives of these women so they may have a brighter future. The women here are enthusiastic and feel so empowered when they complete a project and they are very proud of. It is the start of a very promising future for many of them. The Foundry brought the purses back to Houston, TX and sold them to their congregation. The funds will go directly back to these ladies to help pay for schooling and family needs.



### **Lower Limbe Evangelism Outreach**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the interns trip, they helped us with “Building God’s Kingdom” outreach! The Foundry donated a projector to be used for this new ministry outreach program. When Americans come into the village the Haitians see them as hope and their presence shows God’s love for them and it’s an experience neither of them will ever forget. This outreach used a film in French and it discussed Voodoo verses Christianity. The theme of the movie was to show the difference between the god of animism and the God of the Bible. The town of Bas Limbe was already crowded with people because a festival was happening. So when the film was set up at the town square with the sound projector, hundreds of people began to gather! At the close of the movie, Gersan presented the gospel for all to hear. Approximately 600 people were exposed to the gospel that night! We plan to do more evangelism movie nights in remote towns and villages.



## Bracelet Boys

Foundry was excited to see their special friends "the bracelet boys". They've developed a relationship with these boys over the last 5 years and they've been praying for them. They don't attend church, but join us for VBS each year. Last year they really connected and something began to change. While the Foundry was in Haiti they learned two of the boys had accepted Christ! They were so excited to see them and to hear their story and spend time with them. God is good!



The Bracelet Boys

## Solar Lights for Houses

The Foundry team has been involved since last year in raising the funds for and installing solar lights in Haitian homes where there have only been kerosene lanterns before. We view this as an opportunity to not only bring them the physical light but also the spiritual light of God. After each installation, we formed a circle and prayed for each family. This year the Foundry provided 20 sets of solar lights. The configuration of this lighting reached into 4 rooms of the Haitian house and truly gave them amazing indoor lighting for the first time ever! An extra joy was that this year 6 of the staff of Jacob's Well were chosen to receive these lights in their homes. It was special for the Foundry team to bless those with whom they have worked with for several years now! They also installed solar lights in the church right outside of Jacob's Well plus fixed the cross on the church steeple which had been damaged.



The Wonder of Solar Lights

# FOUNDRY CAMP VBS



Children Gather



The Joy of Play



Hearing the Word



The Joy of Singing



Archery Fun



Riflery Fun

# PROJECTS



Stabilizing the Cross at Ti Guinea Church



Learning to Sew



Installing Solar Lights in Ti Guinea Village



Computer Hardware Assistance



Wonderful Purses Sewn



Ruth Joseph Holding Medical Clinic

## Valcin Personal Updates

Gersan's double cataract eye surgery in July in Austin, Texas was wonderfully successful! Now his vision is so greatly improved in both eyes! The opportunity to have more extended family time in Austin in August has been a great blessing. Some new ministry connections are also happening during our stay and we are very grateful and excited about these! All of this is possible because you are with us as ministry partners for the sake of building God's Kingdom in Haiti!



## SUPPORTING THE VALCIN'S

Support for the Valcin's, and their various ministries is coordinated through Commission to Every Nation.

Please visit our web site to see how you can provide much appreciated financial support.

[VALCINMINISTRY.ORG](http://VALCINMINISTRY.ORG)