



SUMMER 2018

While I was growing up, Labor Day signalled the end of summer. Two short days later, school started. Well here it is... Labor Day has come and gone. Facebook is full of back to school posts. Yes, summer is finally over. So, let me recap the summer of 2018.



JUNE - Electric 2

Once again, Steve Miller joined us at WISH for the month of June to teach electrical to the young people. The garage next to the Youth Center is a space to expose the youth in the community to possibilities in the trades. The Electric 2 Course is just one of the trades to utilize this space. For 3 weeks, the young men attended lectures, had tests, and then used their knowledge to wire the Old Wesleyan Hospital which is now used as a clinic. Four young men faithfully attended 3 weeks and received their certificate.

Steve wants to continue his ministry with the youth of La Gonave. Please keep him in prayer as he explores different ways to further the electric training.



ADULT LITERACY

My daughters aren't the only ones who love the Anne of Green Gables books. I have loved reading about Anne and other fictional characters through the years. I have been inspired by women of faith and forgiveness like Corrie Ten Boom in "The Hiding Place". I have been introduced to stories of loss and courage through sweeping fictional tales like "The Book of Negroes" by Lawrence Hill. And I have been challenged to live a life of authenticity and wholeness through books like "No More Faking Fine" by Esther Fleece. And I can't imagine not being able to pick up my Bible and read it.

When I look around I see a Haitian culture that has a rich oral storytelling tradition but not a rich written tradition. It is estimated that only 53% of the adult population is literate. With the WISH Library and Resource Center, we have the opportunity to change that statistic in our community.

A local school teacher, Kerline, agreed to work with as many adults as we could find for the summer to help them gain functional literacy. I was thrilled with the 2 men and 3 women who came two times a week to work with Kerline and are learning to read and write in Creole.

For those of us who have tried to learn something completely new as adults, we know how tough this is. How discouraging it can be. How foolish we adults feel when we see kids around us easily grasping material that we just can't seem to master. Please pray for these brave adults who are trying to make a better life for themselves.

And pray for us. As school starts again for children, we're not sure where this program will go. But I am excited and determined to see what God has in store for these 5 adults.

YOUTH CENTER

As I've written before, we want a safe and dignified space for the youth in our community to hang out and experience the love of Jesus. This summer we were able to employ a Christian man who opened the youth center each day and provided that presence for the kids. He had craft supplies for the young kids. He was a listening ear to the older kids as they work through life. And of course, he was a referee when squabbles broke out on the playground.

Please pray for Mathieu and for us as we explore ways the youth center can continue to be a bright light in the community.



RAISE THE ROOF

Last Easter we went to Mare Sucren Wesleyan Church which is about a 90-minute ATV ride. The church roof had been in disrepair since Hurricane Matthew and the week before Easter, it was completely removed for safety. One of our visitors took that back with him to his home church of Norton Wesleyan and shared their need. The pastor and his wife, Mark and Karen Cooney are in charge of the kids program during Beulah Family Camp and they decided to RAISE THE ROOF by having the kids raise money during camp. And they did. \$7,000 US dollars came in.

I just love witnessing moments like this. God spoke and His people listened and obeyed. Projects like this are completed through the blessing of the Haitian Wesleyan National Church. What a joy it is to partner with them and see the local church in one country meet the needs of the local church in another country.







FAMILY NEWS

Robin has taken each one of our kids on a grade 12 trip. This summer was Peterson's turn. They went to the Grand Canyon for a 7-day rafting trip with Canyon Ministries. Their days were filled with rafting, hiking, eating great food, listening to lectures by a geologist, and enjoying God's amazing creation. Both say they would love to go back.

Peterson spent his summer working at Caton's Island on the beautiful St John River. He loves reconnecting with friends and we love seeing him use his gifts to minister to kids. Summer camp is a great place to experience God's goodness and we're thankful that he gets to spend his summers at Caton's Island Camp.

Gaëlle spent her summer swimming and running around with her friends. So much fun to see her enjoying life. She truly can have fun anywhere she goes, but she is joy filled when she has special friends who get her and love her and enjoy her. Her summer friends do. She also went with her 2 older sisters to Prince Edward Island. The three sisters are avid Anne of Green Gables fans so this was a chance for them to see the island where the books are set. And also a chance to spend time together.

Our 3 older kids and one spouse all took time off to join us for a long weekend in July. Our son, Josh, also did some travelling in Italy this summer. Emily volunteered for a month in India with young women training them to use a speech language device. Our daughter, Kaylin, was busy working but also spent as much time as possible hiking with her dogs. We were able to join her a few times and got to see more of the beauty of New

Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Robin spent most of his time working on our little cottage on the St John River. He made significant progress and was blessed by the assistance of friends.

Beth was able to visit her parents, sister and brother in New Jersey for a great family time. She was also able to relax and yet still knock off items from her To Do List.

PRAISE

- Thankful for a great summer of rest and nourishment. We feel ready to tackle the coming year.
- Thankful for the WISH and Wesleyan staff who moved the work along during the summer months.
- Thankful for a good transition back to Haiti for our family.

PRAYER

- Pray for what seems to be an increasing Voodoo presence in the community.
- Pray for Peterson and Gaëlle as they start school again and for Peterson as he explores his options for the future.
- Pray for the Tatton Family as they continue to work towards being fully funded.
- Pray for Dan and Joy Irvine who have been Caribe Atlantic Area Directors for Global Partners for the past 12 years. Pray for their transition.
- Pray for the school children in the community and their parents as they work hard to find the resources necessary to send them to school.

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Filling out the faith promise form or signing up to be a prayer partner helps us to know who is on our team and how to connect. Thank you.

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Thank you for your financial gifts to our ministry. If you make a donation through CanadaHelps, please make sure to put your name in the message field. We would like to know who is on our team and how to connect. Thanks.

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