

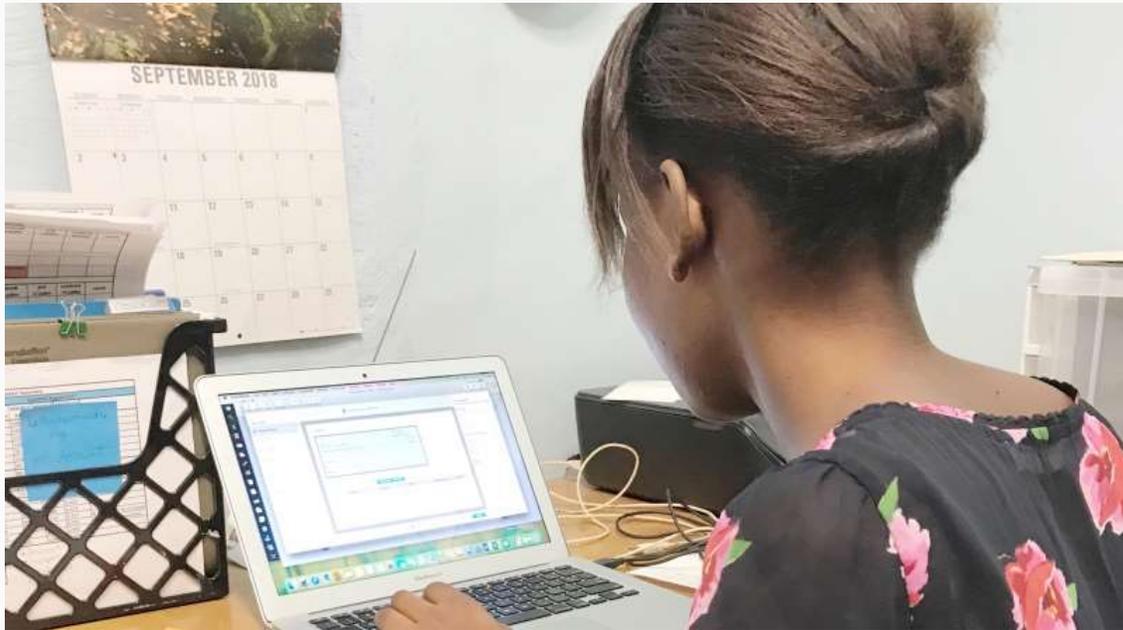
Beyond the Fence Newsletter - October 2018

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OCTOBER 2018

We are enjoying all of the fall pictures from friends and family back home. Photos of the changing leaves, apple picking, and fall decorations just make me so happy. This October I am feeling especially blessed by all of the physical beauty here in Haiti even though it is different from the autumn seasons of my youth. I'm thankful for this gorgeous country to enjoy. And thank you all for sharing some of your lives with us. Here's a little bit about our October.



THERE IS NO ACCOUNTING FOR TASTE

For some, the job of entering data is almost a worse fate than having teeth pulled. But there are those of us who love the order and efficiency of working with numbers and data. Some of my time each week is spent in the office at WISH making sure the money is all accounted for and the data is all entered. I work with Jean Claude to keep track of little details that just help make the operations run more smoothly.

Many of you know the Osne family. Frè Felicin has worked nights for WISH for many years and Madame Felicin is a long-time cook at the Wesleyan Guesthouse. One of their daughters has finished 2 years of college in Port au Prince and is home for 2 months for a school break. Loridana is studying business and so we invited her to spend time in the office with me. It has been a joy to sit beside her showing her the system we use to keep track of WISH finances and paperwork.

There are limits to the education system in Haiti that we often don't consider. For example, most schools don't have consistent electricity so basic computer skills are not taught. Most students have to pay extra for training in word processing and spreadsheet programs like Excel. Even though students may have their own laptop, they don't have the training North American students take for granted. But Loridana is bright, eager and professional. I'm impressed with her ability to learn information and then apply it

practically and I would eagerly recommend her to any employer. In addition to helping me, I hope the past 8 weeks have exposed her to ideas and skills that she will be able to use in the future.

As she heads back to school, please pray for Loridana and other young women who are working so hard in Haiti. They do not have an easy time studying and then finding a job where they can continue to develop their skills and be adequately paid for them. But Loridana and others like her are the future and I look forward to seeing them soar.

Thank you for your continued prayer and financial support of WISH as we have the opportunity to mentor the youth in our community.



Story Time Isn't Just for Kids

The giggling and laughter were contagious. The young women were practicing their new story reading skills. Instead of children on the carpet, Brittany and I were on the floor pretending to be little kids listening to a Creole story book. The story was about a donkey who wanted to go to school and we all chuckled as we pretended to be donkeys saying, "Hihan." As I listened to Blondine read, my heart was full.

A goal of mine has been to work with young women in our community. I also delight in

literacy and sharing my love of reading with others. This October I have joined those two passions. I have fond memories of visits to my local library as a child and then again wonderful memories taking my young children to the library where they participated in story time and were involved in other programs. This is what I want for the children of Anse-à-Galets.

With the assistance of our MK teacher, Brittany, I have started working with 2 young women to run a story time in the WISH library. Our goal is to have the Haitian young women completely run the program. But in the meantime, each week, we prepare a lesson around a Creole story book. We talk about the various ways to change our voice while we read. We discuss the points the children may want to bring up and questions we can ask to facilitate that. We plan a craft or activity to tie into the theme of the story. We point out the illustrations and begin to notice the different styles and how that contributes to a storyline. The young women practice and then each week, the children come to the library and participate. Brittany and I stand off to the sidelines, there to help if we are needed.

It has been exciting to see the confidence of the young women grow as they realize, they are in charge. It is fun to see the children laugh and talk all the while mesmerized by the story. And it is fulfilling to see the young ladies beaming with the pride of knowing a job “well done”.

#ministryhappenshere.



GOING TO THE DOGS

Last summer, our family gained a dog. Even though Ginger's favorite is clearly Gaëlle, we all enjoy having Ginger around. We have had a couple of anxious moments when we thought she might need medical care but we knew if we had an emergency, we would need to boat to the mainland and then drive to find a reliable vet. Not an easy thing to do.

We aren't the only dog owners in Anse-à-Galets who could use a vet. So it seemed like a great opportunity to have veterinarian Kelly Crowdis and her crew come to the island to spay, neuter, and immunize the dogs. They took an early morning boat and immediately went to work in the WISH yard.

The group could not begin to charge the dog owners what it cost for the medicine and their time. This is a true ministry to the people of Haiti. And while it is not a typical WISH team, we are grateful they took time to come and service our furry friends.



FAMILY NEWS

Our family makes an effort to go to the mainland every other month for some family fun and for a change of pace. Haiti is a beautiful country and we enjoy exploring it. In

October we went into the mountains above Port au Prince where we enjoyed the history of Fort Jacques and the beauty of the overlooks along the way. We spent some time visiting shops and enjoyed excellent food in restaurants and were blessed with better internet and an air-conditioned room. A win-win all the way around and time away that we don't take for granted.

PRAISE

- Thankful for great progress on the solar field.
- Thankful for the arrival of new Global Partners missionaries Daniel and Deanna Stanley at Ortilip.
- Thankful for 31 years of marriage this October 9.
- Thankful for moments of rest.
- Thankful for a good meeting with the mayor and Haitian National water agency this month.

PRAYER

- Pray for the solar project field as work continues.
- Pray for funds to continue coming in for the waterline refurbishment project.
- Pray for us as we seek to utilize the training facility, library, and youth center to better meet the needs of the community.

Sign up : FAITH PROMISE or PRAYER PARTNER

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.

American Financial Gifts

Canadian Financial Gifts

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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