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FAMILY NEWS



Last week, our family made the difficult decision to leave Haiti and return to our cottage in Canada. There are many reasons we made this choice but the rapid speed at which governments were making changes due to the spread of COVID-19 was certainly one of

them. On Thursday, March 19, the government of Haiti closed its borders to the transportation of people in and out of the country. However, the governments of the US and Canada worked with the Haitian government for select flights out of Haiti. We were able to book tickets on one of those flights and after a smooth but long trip, we arrived at our cottage on Friday night, March 27.

The Canadian government has implemented mandatory 14 days of self-isolation because we have traveled outside of Canada. We were careful during our travel using masks and gloves and Clorox wipes and limiting our interactions with others. But we still want to do our part and continue to be careful. We are so thankful to all those who helped us navigate our travel and prepared our cottage so we don't have to visit stores for our 2 weeks of isolation.

Right now, Gaëlle will continue homeschooling and Beth will work with her. Robin will continue to communicate with WISH staff and assist with resources as he is able. Peterson's university classes have moved to an online format for the rest of the semester. Our son, Joshua, is in IT and is working at home but busier than ever. Our daughter Emily, is at home and not allowed to meet with her Speech Language Pathology clients while her husband Gable, has been laid off his electrical job. Our daughter Kaylin continues to work in long term care and feels the stress of an already overtaxed healthcare system. Our family, like all others, is feeling the impact of these uncertain times.

We are thankful for each one of you and your love and concern for our family and for the ministries of WISH. The following prayer is from the YouVersion app which I have found so meaningful during this time.

A Prayer for Our World

God, You alone are worthy of honor, glory, and praise. With You, we can overcome every storm—including the global impact COVID-19 is having on our world.

Right now, we are asking You to:

- Heal those who are sick and protect those who are not.
- Give our leaders extra wisdom as they navigate this pandemic and economic uncertainty.
- Strengthen Your global Church. Reveal to us how we can partner together to reach the needs of those around us.
- Calm our fears. Fill us with Your hope, joy, and peace as we continue to trust in You.
- Use this pandemic to pave the way for spiritual renewal. We want Your glory, power, and healing to be on display.

Come Lord Jesus, come.
In Jesus' Name, Amen.

YouVersion

WHAT NOW?



Once again we are in the position to ask, "What now?" Unfortunately, the rest of the world is also asking this question. As of today, March 30, Haiti has 15 people who have tested positive for COVID-19. The government of Haiti has closed schools and has asked for people to practice social distancing. We have closed the WISH youth center and library to programs as it would be difficult to keep programs to 5 or less.

We have worked with the staff in the ice house on how to practice hygiene working with the public. We believe ice is an essential service and we hope to keep the ice house open for business.

By the time we left, we were already seeing the prices of goods increase. We expect this will continue and a vulnerable population will be even more vulnerable even if the country is able to prevent the virus from spreading.

When we arrived in Haiti in 2015 the exchange rate was 50 HTG to \$1 USD. Today it is 98 HTG to \$1 USD and increasing daily. The harsh reality is that money doesn't go as far as it once did. With goods more scarce because of the global situation, there will be challenging times for most Haitians.

We know that some of the WISH supporters will be unable to contribute financially to the ministries of WISH. But for those who can, please remember WISH. The ministry of water is more important than ever and Anse-à-Galets, which should be in the rainy

season has been very dry. The public water fountains are an important source of water and it takes significant resources to maintain them. The WISH staff have been out on a regular basis to maintain the water lines. This is also an essential service and we thank you for your continued prayers and support.

March Teams



Our March started off with a visit from Quest Church from St Louis. They have been strong supporters of the ministries of WISH and gave a hand to much needed roof renovations on what we call the small house at WISH. There is always great fellowship around the porch when Quest teams visit and we are thankful for the love and care they show us and the staff.

Simon Stenekes has long had a heart for agriculture in Haiti and he came once again to check on some projects locally and in the mountains. He brought a horticulturalist and an artist with him. Gaëlle had a private art lesson from Michelle and we are always so thankful for the generosity of people to share their time and talents with us.

Kelly Crowdis is a veterinarian who came with 6 Haitian technicians to put on a free dog spay and neuter clinic. Her team worked non-stop and were a blessing to many families

in the community. We are thankful to partner with local people who are positively impacting our communities.

PRAISE

- Thankful for dedicated staff who are committed to seeing the ministries of WISH continue.
- Thankful for all of the WISH board members who are seeking God's will and discernment to keep the ministries of WISH going.
- Thankful for a smooth trip back to Canada. Thankful that Mo did so well with all of the turmoil.

PRAYER

- Pray for the country of Haiti to completely contain coronavirus.
- Pray for the Haitian people who are dealing with increased prices, decreased goods, closed schools, and no government safety net.
- Pray for the Wesleyan Hospital and all of the medical staff who are dealing with the fears of the community and working to educate the people on how to stay safe.
- Pray for the Haitian churches to lead the people with truth and love and calm.

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 The Wesleyan Church of Canada website, please select "Specific Missionaries & Projects" in the "I'd like to give" dropdown.

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Monthly newsletter for the prayer supporters of Beth & Robin Churchill.

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