

Beyond the Fence Newsletter - May 2020

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## FAMILY UPDATE



Thanks so much for joining us on this journey. We are so grateful for the love and prayers for us and for the ministries of WISH. I know that life is very different for most of us and yet there are milestones that we are so very grateful for.

Peterson finished his first year of university with the last 6 weeks online. He enjoyed his courses and received A's in every single class. We are pleased he found a program that is such a great fit for him. He is still looking for a summer job and we would appreciate your prayers for him.

Gaëlle continues to work on her grade 8 classes. She is disciplined and works hard to do her best. The province of New Brunswick is allowing summer camps to operate with some new guidelines and so we are grateful as Gaëlle has been looking forward to volunteering at Caton's Island this summer.

Our daughter, Emily and her husband Gable, have bought a house in Halifax. They have been in Alberta for 6 years and will be moving at the end of June. This is bittersweet for them, as they loved Alberta and yet are looking forward to being back in Nova Scotia. We are grateful for family and would appreciate your prayers for them as they transition back to the east coast.

Our daughter Kaylin and son Joshua, continue to work and adapt to the current reality. I am so proud of them all for their service to their communities.

Even though we are far from each other, one fun thing we've been able to do is play games together online. We use Zoom and then play an online game together. It's something we could have always done but we just never considered. Now with so many of us using Zoom, we've had fun connecting this way as a family. Again, I am so grateful for the blessing of family.

## **DESALINATION**



Water is one of the biggest ministries of WISH and so we are pleased to report the opening of the desalination facility. This project was funded by World Hope and GivePower and is being run by GivePower. WISH has been in a support role for the project and we are pleased to see this facility up and running.

The WISH waterline is still a vital source of water for the community of Anse-a-Galets but the desalination plant is providing a reliable source of potable water that is filtered to World Health standards. Things are working well and the water has been well received in the community. The facility has the capacity to produce 20,000 gallons a day and has started with small water users. As the facility continues to operate, there will be additional avenues for water to be distributed.

This is an exciting time and development and we are thankful for organizations who provide the technology and infrastructure to improve the quality of life in La Gonave. The fact that this plant was built and opened during a country wide lock down and then a pandemic is amazing. We are thankful to God for His goodness.

## HAITI COUNTRY UPDATE



Living with uncertainty has been common for many Haitians. During this time of coronavirus, that has only been exacerbated. The WISH staff know they have jobs and will continue to have jobs. But there are many Haitians without work. School is closed. There are physical distancing restrictions that have closed some businesses. The exchange rate between the Haitian gourde and US dollar continues to increase. The state of emergency in Haiti has been extended to July 20. The pressures and stresses on the WISH staff and families continue to increase as they are often the only source of income for their extended families.

There are many who contribute financially and with prayer to the daily needs of WISH.

**Thank You.**

There are many who contribute financially and with prayer to the special projects of WISH.

**Thank You.**

WISH has a Benevolence Fund which is used to support the staff and families and other

community needs during tough times. Well.... Times are tough. If you would like to donate, the WISH Benevolence Fund is a great way to support families.

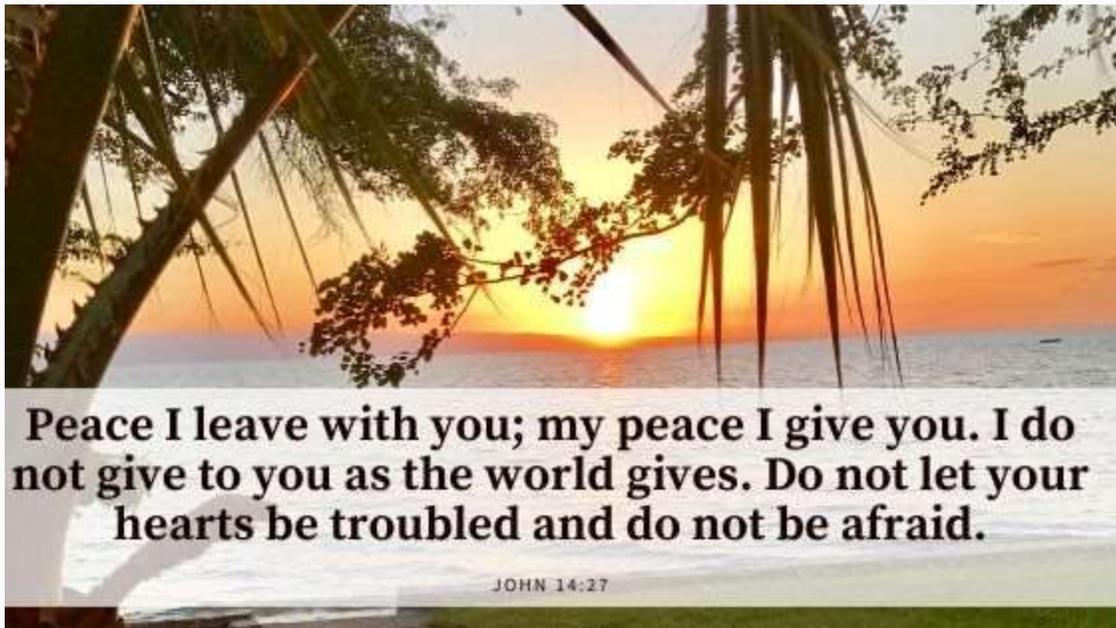
**Thank You.**

## **WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?**

Isn't that the question we would all like to answer? With something definite? What we know right now is that Haiti has extended the state of emergency to July 20. We don't know if Haiti will allow airlines to fly people in before then. When people are allowed to fly into Haiti, we don't know what the guidelines will be for isolating and physical distancing, etc. All of those requirements will impact our timeline to return to Haiti. It seems likely that our physical presence in Haiti will not look anything like we thought it would when we returned in January.

Right now, Robin continues to communicate daily with WISH staff. Robin continues to work with the WISH board on moving projects forward and prioritizing the work. Beth continues to work with the WISH office staff on the administration and finance processes. Beth is also working on ways to increase the Canadian engagement with WISH.

We are so thankful to God for His presence in our lives. We don't like uncertainty but we are resting in God's promises and know that we can trust Him with the details.



## PRAISE

- Thankful for the opening of the desalination plant.
- Thankful for all of the WISH financial and prayer partners who support the WISH ministries.
- Thankful for the WISH leadership of Jean Claude, Jean Baptiste, and Madame Foglas.
- Thankful Peterson had a great first year of university.

## PRAYER

- Pray for the country of Haiti to wisely deal with the realities of coronavirus.
- Pray for the Haitian people who are dealing with increased prices, decreased goods, closed schools, and no government safety net.
- Pray for the WISH Board as they continue to navigate these uncertain times with

regards to ministries in Haiti.

- Pray for the WISH Board as they work to send a container to Haiti for vital products for waterline, ice house, solar field, etc.
- Pray for our family as we work from Canada in these uncertain times.

**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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