

Beyond the Fence Newsletter - June 2020

[View this email in your browser](#)



FAMILY UPDATE



I have never been through anything like these past 4 months and I know I am not alone. Gaëlle and I have been using the Daily One Journal since March 25 to document these unusual times and so these are just a few of the notes I have made this month.

June 1 – Call with WISH Board Executive.

June 10 – Mo gets a haircut.

June 13 – Browns Flat Fellowship Church @ 6:30 pm.

June 14 - BLM rally in St John.

June 15 – WISH closes for the week due to ill health.

June 20 – My parents 61st Wedding Anniversary.

June 24 – Emily and Gable leave Calgary for their 6-day drive to Halifax.

June 26 – Gaëlle goes to Caton's Island Camp for CIT training.

When I look back, they are mostly normal activities, and yet, they are different because of coronavirus realities. Social distancing. Limited group size. And yet through it all we continue to be grateful for family and for the many blessings of the everyday ordinary.

TRANSITION TIME

When we returned to Haiti in January 2020, we had some clear goals for ourselves working with WISH and some goals for our family and we looked forward to this season. We had decided that our final date for living full-time in Haiti and for working with Global Partners was June 2021. So, in March when coronavirus roared into our awareness and we decided to return temporarily to Canada, those plans became somewhat derailed.

Pretty soon after we arrived back in Canada, we started talking as a couple about the continued impact of coronavirus. We began praying about our options and the best route for our family and our involvement with WISH. We had hoped that our family would be able to return to Haiti in September. For many different reasons, at this time we have decided that the way forward is for Robin to continue working as a full-time missionary with Global Partners until June 2021 as we had planned.

However, Beth will transition from a paid full-time missionary with Global Partners to volunteering with WISH. Her time with Global Partners will be finished June 30, 2020.

We are grateful and thankful for peace in this time. However, there is also a sense of loss and sadness now as we think about the impact of this decision. We both had plans and dreams that are unfinished and unmet. Beth and Gaëlle have not been able to say “good-bye” as we would have liked. So, we will grieve the loss and sit in the present, so thankful for each one of you and your encouragement to us.

NEXT STEPS

There are still many uncertainties for us for the future. However, we do have a few answers.

- Beth will continue to monitor the finances and administration of WISH in Haiti and provide guidance as needed.
- Beth is starting a Canadian charity for WISH in order to provide an avenue for Canadian involvement in the ministries of WISH.
- Robin will return to Haiti when it is possible at regular intervals. WISH board members and ministry partners will return with him as they are able to maintain the ministries of WISH and continue the transition to a new model of serving in Haiti.

We have known a peace about our finances and that is due to your faithfulness. Thank you for your regular giving and your commitment. Beth is not stepping back due to a concern about our finances. However, we do want to honor the sacrifice many of you are making at this uncertain time and we want to use our resources as wisely as possible. Robin will continue to be a full-time missionary and will continue to need financial support until he concludes his service with Global Partners in June 2021. Again, we are thankful for God's provision during this time.



We are still in the beginning stages of starting a new Canadian charity in order to allow Canadians to stay engaged in the ministries of WISH. This is an exciting time for us as we look for additional ways to support the ministries of WISH.

VISION

Community **W**ellness through **I**nnovative and **S**ustainable practices with a spirit

of Humility.

Projects will be supported in the areas of:
WATER - COMMUNITY - ENERGY - INFRASTRUCTURE

If you are a resident of Canada and would like to be involved, please email us at beth@haitiwish.org or robin@haitiwish.org. Stay tuned for further details.

Let's talk about IN-COUNTRY REVENUE



There's nothing like a pandemic and 2 years of intermittent country wide lock downs in Haiti to assess priorities and ministries. Sustainability is a popular word in all kinds of organizations but particularly in organizations that work across cultures. WISH offers services and products to the local community that are desired by community members and necessary for their daily life. Some of those services are given freely to the community. But others are reasonably priced and provide a source of in-country revenue.

Why does in-country revenue matter?

For many reasons but briefly:

- 1- It shows that there is a real need that is being met locally.
- 2- It offers dignity to the staff who are providing that need.
- 3- It provides a consistent source of revenue regardless of international concerns.
- 4- It reduces the need for out of country donations.
- 5- It advances the goal of sustainability and frees up resources for other needs.

At this time we want to celebrate the WISH ICE HOUSE. This facility is open 365 days a year. The staff provide a valuable service to the community and the sale of ice provides a regular source of revenue. All day long, people can be seen coming from the ice house with their large blocks of ice. This vital ministry has been operating for 30 years and through the ongoing faithfulness of WISH staff and partners, will continue for many more.

#ministryhappenshere

PRAISE

- Thankful for improved health of WISH staff.
- 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 Gaëlle has the opportunity to work at camp.
- Thankful the Canadian provincial borders are opening up.

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 move the ministries of WISH forward and seek additional partners.
- Pray for the WISH Board as they work to send a container to Haiti for vital products for waterline, ice house, solar field, etc.

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.

[Sign Up For Our Newsletter](#)



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

Our mailing address is:

Beth & Robin Churchill
30 Kinghorn Ave
Browns Flat, NB E5M 2W1
Canada

[Add us to your address book](#)