

Farsight Christian Mission, Inc. NEWLETTER for January, 2009

Maplat, Haiti was struck by two hurricanes in 2008, which wiped out their food source for the year. So far, sixteen children have starved to death as a result. Food relief was absorbed by the cities and any surplus appeared in the marketplace “for sale” and not available to those families who needed it most.

Below are 25 kids from this village. I have once again taken on the challenge of finding sponsors to support these children. Support for these children to be educated does far more than buy books and pay teachers. It also provides hot lunches, medical care, and outreach into their homes to provide assistance for other siblings when needed. Most importantly, it is our open door to evangelism.

When I evaluate staff for a school, the teaches must have “big hearts” and genuinely care about the kids, and the cooks must be honest, generous, and fair. Teaching the 3-R’s is easier when the child is healthy and has a full stomach.

Would you help me help these kids and their families? \$25.00 per month will sponsor a child and help his/her family as well. The assistance is critical until next summer’s crops are harvested. Please pray for this whole village, that they will be spared from hurricanes this summer.

I am working on a team to go to Maplat March 28 - April 3 to collect more information on the families and to document the situation in that region. I could use a few more “Marines” or “Eagle Scouts” to fill out the team.

Pick one and email his/her name to me at LHalstead@FCMInc.org.



Belony Louis



Berline Tata



Berthony Joseph



Christella Pierre



Claudy Pierre



Diana Louis



Ezena Sauveur



Jh Marc Debras



Juliana Pierre



Junior Pierre



Kattiana Clerveau



Kettelle Louime



Larause Louime



Lauvena Pierre



Lorby Louime



Lucienne Desir



Lucner Sauveur



Manes Pierre



Marline Louime



Oberson Pierre



Peterson Pierre



Raymond Pierre



Richard Louime



Robert Desir



Wideline Louime

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please email LHalstead@FCMInc.org and let me know your wishes.

Nego, on his last visit to Maplat, was able to get some of the kids and teachers to gather in front of their school building.

When I go in March, the building that you see to the right of the school is where the team will stay. There is no roof, no doors, and no windows. It's a real fixer-upper!

There are no springs or wells so the village relies completely on captured rainwater. In March, they will be near the end of the dry season so we will need to carry water for all our needs for the week.

You're FIRED! A lot of people this past year have heard those words. On January 2, 2009, I said them to myself. (I waited until after the holidays to ease the anxiety.) For the past three years I have optimistically said that FCM would take the challenge of "doing more with less" and each year we have had to do just that. If the downward trend continues through 2009, by year's end FCM will be incapacitated due to a lack of funds.

I am being proactive and have trimmed off all of the fat, (**ME**). FCM is once again a 100% volunteer operation. In 1997 we got our start by operating on the volunteer system and were funded out of my retirement funds. Looking back, I guess I should not have saved any of those funds for actual retirement. This past year the "Market" absorbed 80% of the remaining funds. I've got about enough for either six months of retirement or a cheap funeral.

Our next step is to take in boarders into our home in exchange for donations to FCM. (See the attached promo for FCM Bed & Breakfast). We are also advertising our home as a Christian Retreat Center where small groups and church staff can hold meetings. We have booked our first group of 20 for June. Our home is just half way between Michigan and Florida, so if you know any "snowbirds" going home this spring, please tell them about us.

Last but not least, you can help in many ways. First, please mention my name, Cindy, FCM, the kids on page one, and the village of Maplat in your next seven prayer times. Second, mention us in your Bible School class during the next prayer or announcement time. Next, forward this newsletter to at least three friends and encourage them to send FCM their email addresses so they can receive the newsletter directly. And finally, please find someone among your friends and family who would be willing to sponsor a child for one year.



February and March:

The FCM annual meeting is February 14, 2009. We are expecting about 14 board members, family, and guests in attendance. Shortly after that meeting I have to figure out and report to the IRS on the newly formatted 990 form. I have not seen it yet but hear that it is now a collection of 16 forms all rolled into one. I am also writing and appealing to everyone I know and every organization that may be able to help fund the purchase of rice, beans, and oil to help feed families in Maplat for a month. Here is an excerpt from one of my appeal letters:

I do not know of any business, charity, or family that is not going through tough economic times right now but I do know that our toughest times are nothing compared to the daily struggle I have witnessed in Haiti.

To feed 50 families (approx. 400 people) FCM needs to acquire the following:

- 1. 50 - 100# bags of rice. . . \$40 ea. = \$2,000***
- 2. 50 - 50# bags of beans. . . \$32.50 ea. = \$1,625***
- 3. 50 gal. cooking oil. . . \$9 ea = \$450***
- 4. 50 bags of charcoal. . . \$20 ea. = \$1,000***
- 5. Water filtration & collection system \$300***
- 6. Depot for storage of food to keep it safe from vandels/thieves/foul weather/rodents. \$900***

If I find the funds, we can distribute the food in March.

*Farsight Christian Mission, Inc
Christian Retreat Center & A Quiet Place - Bed & Breakfast*

Come and enjoy a quiet, cozy evening by the fire.

*All rooms have queen-size beds, plus the dorm will sleep 8.
Choose from our vast list of breakfast foods and we will have it ready for you at the
time you specify. Other meals and programs are available.*

Please call 954-383-0711 for reservations and directions.

We are located just 4 miles east of the I-75, Ooltewah, TN Exit 11

Levern & Cynthia Halstead, proprietors

A minimum donation of \$25 per person per night to FCM is all we ask

Allow us the opportunity to share the work of FCM with you and your donation becomes a tax deduction.



From our mountaintop location every window offers a panoramic view. On a clear day, Big Frog Mountain, forty miles away, is silhouetted by the morning sun.

Sleep lightly and listen carefully and you might hear the hoo-hooo of our family of owls.

Sit quietly with your coffee on the deck and you might see deer sneaking back into the thickets or a fox skittering through the leaves to its den.

Squirrels and birds are abundant throughout the canopy of trees that surround us.



The great room offers a warm seasonal fire and deep, soft seating.

In spring and fall enjoy sipping lemonade out on the deck.

Sit in the corner and enjoy a book or slide up to the table and work on a puzzle.

Your room has a balcony view where the rich aroma of morning coffee perking will awaken your taste buds even before you open your eyes.

WWW.FCMInc.org

