

THE HAITI WATER PROJECT: MANY IN HAITI WILL HAVE TO WAIT FOR WATER AN UPDATE FROM DARENDA LEASE

The flights are booked for our next Haiti trip to install TWO water treatment systems! Let that sink in while I share with you how God has worked his wonder and grace into quite a plan!

Back in May, we started sending money to construct the building that will house the water treatment system. We sent the first installment to Pere Alphonse, Pastor on the Torbeck site. He sent us pictures of the progress. Over the next month we sent three installments, each time receiving great photos of progress. Pere Alphonse sent emails telling that the excitement in his village is high and he anxiously waits for our return in November. He feels so blessed to be helping his village of Torbeck get access to clean water. He travels to different villages and is well aware that many in Haiti will have to wait for clean water. Those words became significant: *Many in Haiti will have to wait for clean water.*



TORBECK

The efforts of our fundraising committee have been quite successful and we almost have enough money for two installations. We started to think about where we would direct those funds for a trip in 2013. It became clear God was not going to wait. He set the wheels in motion for us to start conversation with Crystal Funk, Founder of Hearts United with Haiti .

Crystal and her organization have helped to build a school and church in the village of Chaveneau. Here is information from her website:

“Chaveneau is located in the extreme southwest region of Haiti about a 4.5 hour drive from the capital city of Port au Prince. It is a remote farming community. In order to get to the location of the church/school, one must sometimes park their vehicle in Chantal and hike about 2 to 3 miles by foot. This involves crossing/wading through two rivers. If the water is low enough, an SUV can drive through the rivers making the trip to Chaveneau a bit easier.” <http://heartsunitedwithhaiti.com>

Crystal realized during these past few years that one of the greatest needs of this village was the need for clean water. Crystal had witnessed the death of children and the elderly due to disease from contaminated water, and her new focus was obtaining clean water as soon as possible! While exploring wells and clean water options, Crystal met a gentlemen that had met the BHCC Haiti Water Team during training at Clean Water U, and this man directed Crystal to contact us! God’s work? God’s plan?



TORBECK

We were so moved by Crystal’s story that we started discussing the possibility of doing an installation at Chaveneau during our November trip. It seemed so perfect! Chaveneau is close enough to Torbeck and we had ten trained people willing to go, so the wheels started turning! We knew we had much to do before we could commit. Major things needed to happen before we could install a system: a new well dug, funds raised by the already taxed Hearts United with Haiti, construction of a building before the rainy season starts in October, plus several surveys of this site were required. The BHCC team had no way to go to Haiti before November to accomplish any of these preliminaries. Realistically, all signs were pointing to Chaveneau for 2013!

Many in Haiti will have to wait for clean water.

I have no way to explain what happened next except to say that God worked his wonder and grace into quite a plan!



TORBECK

Within a week of discovering the need in Chaveneau, we found out that Ashley Broadhurst, our friend with Solar Under the Sun, would be in Haiti in June! She offered to take the time to visit the site and do the needed assessments. Ashley was then here in Pittsburgh for General Assembly in July and met with the BHCC Haiti Team to talk about Chaveneau. At the same time, conversations with Crystal, Hearts United with Haiti, were going strong as she organized her funding and offered us free transportation while in Haiti.

But by the end of the summer, things were not looking so positive. There were new questions about the site, money from Hearts United was not coming in for the well, and the SUV Crystal had offered for transportation was having major engine problems. A new vehicle would need to be purchased. Disappointments all around! *Many in Haiti will have to wait for clean water.*

By August, we saw more clearly that God was at work with us! Through lots of prayer and determination, things had started to fall into place; **HE** knew we were going to make this happen! As of this writing, Chaveneau has a new well, we sent money to start the building and a new SUV is on its way to Haiti!

The people of Chaveneau do not have to wait much longer for clean water.

We have been working hard to get ready for our trip to do TWO water treatment installations in November of 2012. We are a little nervous about all that we have to accomplish but have no doubt and much faith that we will get it done! There are nine heading to Haiti: Chris Robbins, Rick and Pat Jacobs, Rich Salvante, Tim and Darena Lease, Alan and Betsy Hohlfelder, and our Pastor, Brian Snyder. We will greatly miss Karl Casey, who could not join us. In Haiti, we will be joined by two drivers, four translators, Crystal Funk and the Solar Under the Sun team. It will be a fast and furious week. We depart early Tuesday, November 27th, arriving in Haiti at 4: 30 pm. We then drive three plus hours to our home for the week, Hosanna House in Le Cayes. Wednesday to Saturday we split into teams and will be on site installing the system, teaching about health and hygiene, and hopefully surveying new sites for future installations. On Sunday, we will worship with our new brothers and sisters in Christ, dedicate the systems to each village and drive back into Port Au Prince. We return home late Monday, December 3rd.

Some of you may ask if there is anything you can do to help. I have a few ideas! The team may need help over this next month with inventory and packing; please ask us. We realize that we cannot do this type of mission work without the support of our family members we leave at home. While we are gone, please reach out them. Perhaps, offer to cook a meal one evening or arrange a play date with the kids? If you are interested in organizing these things, let me know! I will help you. Please come to the Funny Fundraiser! Help us reach our fundraising goal for these two systems. We can't thank you enough for your support!



We want to keep you updated all the time, so Pat Jacobs will be posting a blog about Haiti. Look for information about that in the bulletin soon and on the church website!

Thank you, thank you for blessing this mission!

We are so excited to share our experience with you now and even more so when we return. But don't wait, let's do coffee!

I love to talk about this mission anytime!

Darena Lease

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CHAVENEAU