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MISSIONMATTERS

Allegany Region Missions provides a multi-denominational Christian mission ministry to the needy of the world, through a focus on mission projects and programs in medical care, surgery, construction and education.

In God's Time

By Michele Harms

When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt." So God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt ready for battle. Exodus 13:17-18a

I have to admit I am not overly patient. I work hard at trying to be when standing in a check-out line, listening to a conversation without interrupting, and driving carefully behind a slow-moving vehicle. However, when it comes right down to it, I am part of the "now generation" of the United States. This isn't an age-related generation; this is a location-related affliction. We have been blessed with advances in technology to such a degree that we demand even more. If you think I am wrong, have you turned on an old computer or cell phone? Did you comment, at all, about how slow it works? Remember, that was fast once! Did you ever check out the color of the bananas in the grocery store? Does that register as any proof we want our food now and fresh?

So?, you ask, what does patience have to do with the Bible verse above from Exodus and what does it have to do with ARM's work? Be patient ☺, and I will fill you in.

In September **2008**, ARM was challenged by a missionary friend to pray about coming alongside the Mixte La Trinite Chretienne (Trinity Christian Mixed School (boys & girls)) of Gallette, Haiti, affectionately known as "Pastor Ben's school (Pastor Bernato) to build a solid-wall school. After a year of praying and discussions, ARM continued to feel led to meet this challenge. In August **2009**, members of the ARM Board went to Haiti and met with the Gallette school board for wonderful meetings, with both groups sharing their hearts and desiring to follow God's leading. Shortly after this meeting, all parties confirmed they felt God's guidance and the search for appropriate land for a school was begun. The timing... right before the January 12, **2010** earthquake.

Over a year later, in the spring of **2011** again saw members of the ARM Board in Haiti to reconnect with the Gallette school board and re-discuss the school building project in light of the devastating earthquake. The school board continued to be excited about this project and the active search for land was begun again.

Patience... possible land available... now not available... more patience... *in God's timing.*

In October **2011**, Bert (ARM president) and Mary Rappole met with Pastor Bernato for a first-hand update on the land search and as a time to show continued ARM support. No land yet... much more patience. *In God's timing.*

On a mission trip in February **2012**, 3 members of the ARM Board sat with Pastor Bernato for another update. Pastor had a reserved excitement; land may have been found and not by his active search, but because God was at work! A friend and member of Pastor's congregation heard about the dream to build a school and approached Pastor about selling his land for that use! **In God's timing, wonderful things happen.** The process is underway to purchase this land "just over the canal". Land surveys, title searches and more must be completed, so more patience is needed. *In God's timing.*

Should we expect anything different from our Lord? Doesn't He have a history of requiring patience in His people? In the Exodus verse above, as the Israelites first left Egypt, God didn't take them directly to the Promise Land, He sent them on a l-o-n-g trek. *In God's timing.* During that time He taught them, challenged them, equipped them, and prepared them. In our "now" world, we want everything done yesterday—but remember, God creates the l-o-n-g treks for a reason and we need to take the time to see what He has to teach.

As for ARM, there have been many more blessings in the midst of this 4 years of patiently waiting which I cannot begin to cover in this article. God's time of preparation on ARM's hearts will be important in making this cooperative effort with the Gallette school board a wonderful, share-ful project. In our lack of patience we question why God isn't moving, especially when we think we are doing something for Him... then we discover, in hindsight, God's hand has been in it the whole way.

Please Pray for Mission Trips for Friends of ARM

Kara Tenpas—to Kenya with CSI team, July 2012
Jim Holler, Kathy Adams & Kidder UMC—Village of Hope, Haiti, August 2012
Michele Harms—to Jamaica with TEAMS for Medical Missions, August 2012
Molly Lindberg & Randolph UMC—to Village of Hope, November 2012



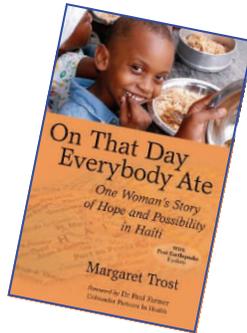
Piti piti na rive.

“Little by little we will arrive.”



“We have a Creole saying I want to teach you. *Piti piti na rive*. That means little by little we will arrive. One step at a time, Margaret. In Haiti, sometimes they are very, very small steps. Sometimes we go backward. But it’s important to keep taking steps, even though they are small. Never lose hope. Never give up. One day, maybe not during my lifetime, but one day, we will get there.”

The quote above is from the book ***On That Day, Everyone Ate*** by Margaret Trost, founder of the *What If? Foundation*. In this quote, Father Gerry Jean-Juste, a Haitian priest, talks to Margaret about her concerns over the huge task of helping alleviate the poverty and suffering she has witnessed in Haiti as she and Fr. Gerry walked through the yard of the St. Claire’s Church, Tiplas Kazo, Haiti.



Village of Hope, Haiti, Opened its Medical Clinic on April 18th.



Main entrance to clinic

The clinic sees approx. 30-35 patients per day. The laboratory and pharmacy have been busy, too.

Construction work is still being completed inside the clinic and work to build needed services for the patients is also underway. Praise the Lord for His hand in this vital endeavor.

Email updates from ARM

Go to the ARM’s homepage, www.ARMissions.org and “sign up.”



Privacy by 

WANTED!

VOLUNTEERS

The ARM Randolph Depot is looking for volunteers to help in the 2nd-hand clothing and house-ware store on Main Street, Randolph.

- ◆ Want to help others in a tangible way?
- ◆ Need volunteer hours for graduation?

Volunteers can:

- Help customers
- Receive and sort donations
- Display clothes & household items
- Store upkeep: sweeping & dusting



Volunteers must be 8th graders through Senior Citizens and be the face of JESUS - kind, understanding, encouraging, smiling.

Store hours: Tues-Sat; 10am-2pm

Contact the Depot—ARMissions@gmail.com

Visit the Depot website

www.armissions.org/local_regional.htm

NEWS UPDATE-- RANDOLPH DEPOT

From Depot Director, Charles Lindberg

We provided emergency clothing to a family who lost EVERYTHING when a devastating fire destroyed their home and business on the afternoon of May 17th. No one was seriously injured thanks be to God. They do, however need our prayers.



ARM

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For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10