



Volume 6, Issue 2 Spring 2008

# 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.

## Language of Mission

by Mary Rappole

January 12, 2008 I traveled to Haiti to provide a Health Clinic to women of Haiti, focusing on their special needs with teaching and screening procedures. This trip was put together with minimal planning as I only had to arrange my travel plans and knew that I would be staying with my good friends Bert and Roberta Anderson, new missionaries providing leadership for the Medical Clinic in Cottard. A special team that only God could put together was waiting for me in Haiti!

Bert and Roberta's daughter Rachel and her good friend Julia Davis were visiting Haiti during their college break. Along with female high school students from Quisqueya Christian School as translators, we worked in groups of 3 to 5 Haitian women, spending precious time teaching, listening, learning, praying, and discussing specific issues that women of all ages have questions about. We worked together for four days at the Medical Clinic. We had 30 women visit with us that week. The work that we started will be carried on by Nancy Smith, a new member of the missionary staff at the clinic. Nancy is a registered nurse who will be doing teaching and community outreach to the families of that area. We were able to leave her with wonderful teaching tools for her work.

Once again God blessed our short time together. Rachel and her friend returned to their college life in the US with an new understanding that the women of Haiti share the same concerns that we have at all of life's stages. It was beautiful to observe the new awareness that the young women from the private Haitian high school gained as they served as translators for the country women of a different economic class. I often just sat back and watched God work in the entire setting, as seeds were planted in the hearts of all of us. Praise God for His quiet work!

The second week I was in Haiti I was privileged to work with a wonderful, very experienced medical team from Richmond, Virginia. They had been to Haiti many, many times most often working with Pastor Leone at the Blanchard Clinic near Cite Soleil. There were 5 physicians, a pharmacy, an eye clinic, and a construction crew. This team consisted of very mature Christians, with wonderful Bible teachings, a true presence of church at work.

I encourage everyone to walk through the door of opportunity when God offers new experiences. We speak the same language!

Faith.....Serve.....Share

## Vacation Bible School, Haiti Style Easter 2008

One of the most powerful ministries involving the touching of lives, sharing of God's Word and showing tangible love is through a Vacation Bible School program. Whether VBS is in the US or in Haiti, the impact can be eternal. The VBS team that was part of ARM's Easter trip to Haiti, including 7 youth, worked hard in this endeavor, ministering to around 100 children daily through Bible stories and games.

Each day began with teaching two of the 10 commandments and using other Bible stories to illustrate God's desire for us to obey Him in all we do. Each afternoon saw the thespians appear as they acted out more stories, including:

The Good Samaritan—teaching that no matter what "class" we associate ourselves with, we are never too good to help a neighbor.

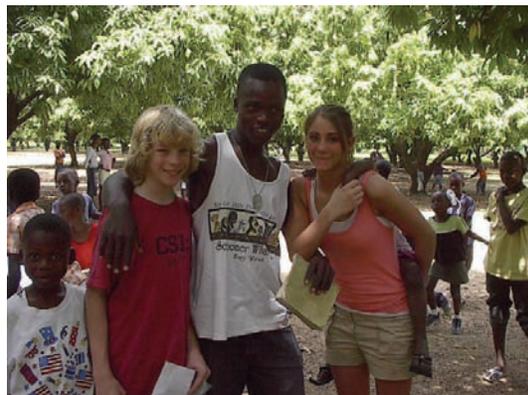
Jesus and the Children—showing the children that Jesus loves them and He proved this by telling his disciples to "let the children come."

Joseph and the Multicolored Coat—teaching that God has a plan for each one of us and when we think something bad has happened, it may be that God is paving the way for something good.

Story of Easter—teaching the children Jesus died and was raised from the dead to forgive us of our sins.

The rest of the day was spent in activities of fun, coloring, blowing bubbles, volleyball (a beach ball and rope for a net), basketball, and more. The favorite game — Duck, Duck, Goose (Teek, Teek, Tock)! In everything, the team continued to show God's love in action, such as when the children shunned another, our VBS team lovingly pulled them back

into the activity; or when someone was hurt, taking time to care. Actions can speak louder than words and the actions of Jesus were seen by all though this special team.



Chaz and Katie with VBS friends.

## What did God show you during your trip to Haiti?

The following youth were each asked the question in the title of this article. This was the first mission trip for these young men who were in Haiti during Easter week. I think their statements: are an encouragement to parents who are wondering whether a mission trip is worth the money for their teen, are an "awakening" for those of us who dwell on what we *want*, not on what we *need*, and I hope are a blessing to know that God is working in the lives of all His children—no matter their age.

*"I learned that we definitely don't need everything that we have here and that next time you go to buy socks you should think of the Haitian people when most of them don't even have shoes. Also God showed me that when we really want something, and we finally get it, more than a week later you want more."* Chaz Ormond, 13 yrs old.

*"To me the trip really opened my eyes. it showed me that you don't need the pleasures of life to survive and that all you really need is God in your heart and you're set for life."* Eric Krueger, 13 yrs old

*"God touched my heart in Haiti by showing me sad things people have to live with. He also showed me that you can be happy with very few things, too."* Colin Deloe, 14 yrs old.

## Teams Needed in Haiti

While visiting the S.I.F. Health Clinic in rural Haiti, Bert and Roberta Anderson, missionaries running the clinic, told of some of their needs, hopes and dreams for teams. **Dentists**—they have a full dental suite in need of dentists and **hygienists** willing to serve. **Optometrists** and **opticians**—there are bins full of reading glasses and even supplies for putting together every-day glasses; people with expertise are needed. **Surgery teams**—the number of people needing same-day surgeries far outnumber the **surgeons** and teams willing to come—more teams are needed. Questions? bertandbert@gmail.com



## Depot Mission Store News -Local Mission Opportunity-

The Depot Mission Store in Randolph has been open all winter this year thanks to the addition of central heat. We have been also blessed with a great part-time volunteer, Margo, who fills in when Mary Jo is unavailable. We could use several more volunteers; *are you available?* We could also use a lighted "OPEN" sign. If anyone would like to donate one or help us in purchasing one, please contact Mary Jo (397-0034) or Chuck (499-4046). Thank you to our faithful friends—prayers are always needed for those we serve and those who serve. Reporting: Chuck Lindberg



## ❖ 3rd Annual Fall Dinner ❖

**Saturday September 20, 2008**

Radisson Hotel in Jamestown, NY

Cost is \$25.00 per person (includes tax & tip)

6:30 PM → Hors d'Oeuvres & Fellowship

7:00 PM → Buffet Dinner & Presentations

Reservations required by Monday 9/15/08

Pre-payment encouraged, please send check to ARM (address below) or call (716)-358-9126 or e-mail. Questions, contact Mary Rappole 483-3572 (office).

Keynote speakers: are **Harold and Teri Nichols**, missionaries in Jamaica with TEAMS for Medical Missions. The Nichols are from Randolph, NY and have an exciting and growing ministry to share.

The night will also include an update by **Bert and Roberta Anderson** (from Sherman, NY), new missionaries in Haiti with Christian Service International.



ARM

Allegany Region Missions, Inc.

PO Box 294

Randolph, NY 14772

### E-mail:

**ARMissions@stny.rr.com**

David Messinger, President  
Mary Rappole, Vice President  
Michele Harms, Secretary  
Judy Messinger, Treasurer  
Molly Lindberg, Financial Secretary

In the same way, **let your light shine** before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16