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# Haiti Project

I am the vine, you are the branches.



September 2015

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## Women Empowering Women in Jeannette, Haiti: Small Business Loans

Village Saving and Loan Cooperative



*Judith D'or, Parish Loan Officer meets with women in the village to discuss loan opportunities for small businesses*

In the heat of a July afternoon, a woman slammed her fist on a narrow wooden desk, exclaiming,

**"Finally, a chance to improve our livelihoods!"**

Women in the village of Jeannette were gathered to meet with Pere Jean Lenord Quatorze, the priest in charge of St. Marc's Parish and Judith Dor, the parish savings and loan officer. Judith D'or was introducing the women to PROCREEH, a partnership between Episcopal Relief and Development Haiti, Haiti Project and St. Marc's Parish in Jeannette establishing a program to work toward the

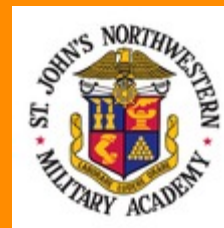


Matching Campaign for Clean Water and Electricity Successful!

Thank you for your generous support.



Dr. Jennifer Henery, of St. John's Military Academy, took her first trip to Haiti



SJNMA inaugural Global Service Learning course is partnering with the Haiti Project. In March, 9 cadets from several different countries will travel to Haiti. In preparation, students are studying the history, culture and traditions of Haiti and exploring Christian

establishment of a village savings and loan cooperative.

The primary purpose of this initiative is to address economic development and self sufficiency for women in Jeannette.

### Full Circle: Investments in Education Open Doors for Economic Opportunity



Haiti Trip Leader, John Meacham of St. Alban's Spooner and Sam Ropa, St. Andrew's Madison, meeting with Parish Loan Officer, Judith D'or and Pere (Father) Jean Lenord Quatorze.

The Parish Loan Officer chosen by Pere Jean Lenord Quatorze, is Judith D'or. Ms. D'or attended Bishop Tharp Institute in Les Cayes receiving her degree in Business Administration. As a girl, she attended St. Marc's School in Jeannette. At St. Marc's, Ms. D'or explained in an interview, she received a good education to prepare her for BTI.

**Long-time Haiti Project missionary and Grace Church Madison parishioner, Steve Smith, was instrumental in the establishment of The Bishop Tharp Institute, an academic Institution affiliated with the Episcopal Church of Haiti. The Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) Agency of the national Episcopal Church of the United States founded the school in 2005.**

#### Grant Award Announcement:

Haiti Project is pleased to announce the grant award of \$2,500 from the Diocese of Milwaukee Commission on Global Reconciliation for the purpose of funding Judith

social justice teachings.



Milwaukee Bucks send 30 team basketballs to Haiti with July trip. Basketball clinic was very popular with children and adults alike.



**Singing Rooster** is offering Haitian metal art fruit bowls, coffee and Haitian chocolate this Fall. The chocolate is made in **Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin at Stolind's with Haitian cocoa beans.**

Order a metal art bowl with two bags of Singing Rooster coffee and three chocolate bars or order individually.

This is a Haiti Project fundraiser for St. Marc's School.

D'or's position of the Parish Loan Officer for PROCREEH, the savings and loan program. This initiative is in alignment with Millenium Development Goals supporting poverty reduction and empowerment of women. We are grateful to the Diocesan Committee on Global Reconciliation for their consideration and decision to support this important work. Thank you to all who support this ministry.

## They Give Their Courage

Dear Friends,

I just wanted to let you know of the progress on the work of the church. The women, they bring rocks from very far on their head, while the community works hard to start the construction. I am so proud of them. I don't have money to pay them and they don't have money to give, but they give their courage.

Blessings!

Pere Jean Lenord Quatorze



Contact: [Heidi Ropa](#)





## Jacson Leger and Mark Bronner: St. Marc's VBS Music Team



*Jacson Leger and Mark Bronner leading VBS songs in Haitian Creole at St. Marc's in July*

I felt the Lord calling me to Haiti way back in the early 1990's...25 pounds ago. Who wouldn't want to help the poorest country in the western hemisphere? While I received amazing support from the kind people of St. Anskar's and the school where I teach, Haiti's precarious governmental situation disallowed our visit twice. After a 20 year hiatus, I was blessed to co-lead a Vacation Bible School in Jeannette the past two summers. The first year we taught lessons based upon Jesus' parables and then engaged in classic Old Testament stories last July.



*Marie Major (14) of Hartland, WI joined the children of St. Marc's in their week of VBS songs and dance.*

### **VBS in Haiti**

Each morning, Pere Quatorze, the priest of St. Marc's, opening our gathering time with a message of the day's teaching, then 60 to 110 students broke into the four stations of music and dance, storytelling, crafts, and (most importantly) snack. We also provided large lunches for the tiny munchkins. I had the opportunity of co-leading the music and dance sections. We brought Wisconsin culture to Haiti: the Chicken Dance, Bunny Hop, and Hokey Pokey are now embedded in the hearts of the Haitians. My highlight was teaching the students "Jesus Loves Me," "Jesus Loves the Little Children," "He's Got the Whole World" and some rounds that we sing at our family dinner table. I was particularly touched when students started to sing last year's songs to me as we arrived in Jeanette. Their smiles, fervent singing, and willingness to open their lives to us will bless me for the rest of my life.

As a slow learner, Christianity finally took hold of me in my early 20's. Ever since then I've wanted to do something

bigger than myself. And at 5'6," you'd think that would be easy. The Haiti Project allowed me to be a short term missionary. It allowed me to put all of my 'first world' problems in perspective. It allowed me to 'go and make disciples.' It enriched my sometimes parched prayer life. It allowed me to be grace to a people who desperately need our prayers and support. It allowed me to learn from some really precious people who are spiritually rich but materially poor.

Would you prayerfully consider joining a trip some time? You'll learn the Chicken Dance. Peace, Mark Bronner

*The Holy Spirit is working in wonderful ways....*



### Special Thanks to the July Trip Participants

The Haiti Project is grateful for the love, patience, and teamwork exhibited by the July trip participants. Members of the July trip included: Beth Major, Ben Major, Marie Major, Ann Baxter, Jennifer Henery, John Meacham, Jennifer Boehm, Sam Ropa and Mark Bronner. (Also pictured Fedner, the driver for Haiti Project trips).



"I don't have money to pay them and they don't have money to give, but they give their courage." Pere Jean Lenord Quatorze

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