

Spring 2021

Asaph UPDATE

Presenting Christ in a Rural Haitian Community...One Lesson at a Time

From: Andy

Greetings from Haiti! Political tensions continue to stress the nation. Violence in the capital seems to be reaching new levels. As is usually the case, rural areas like ours remain perfectly peaceful.

Summer is around the corner. Comfortable temperatures are on their way out, while mangos and mosquitoes are on their way in.

I continue to consider a trip to the USA, but the doors for sharing our message (church services, concerts...) remain closed back in PA, while the doors for ministry remain wide open here. For now, I remain here.

The church here celebrated Holy Week...a raucous celebration of Palm Sunday, then foot-washing and communion during the week, and Sunday resurrection celebrations. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! What great news!

ASAPH Teaching Ministry survives on four main sources of income.

- **Church contributions** are easily the largest part of our annual income. Several faithful congregations have been making this ministry happen since 2012 with regular sizable contributions. Other congregations have contributed on occasion to help make the work continue. When congregations are unable to gather, offerings decline, and ministry support can diminish.
- **Fundraising activities** account for a second portion of our income. Regular concerts have been key to our annual fundraising over the years. Those concerts have been suspended, as have restaurant fundraisers and T-shirt sales.
- **Individual contributions** are a third major part of our annual income. Individuals like you have generously mailed financial support to : ASAPH Teaching Ministry 126 W. Main St. Dallastown, PA 17313
- **Translation projects** account for a fourth significant part of the ASAPH budget. Other missions send documents to Andy for translation into Haitian Creole. Andy's wages for that work go directly to ASAPH Teaching Ministry. Several major projects are now completed, with fewer new projects on the horizon.

IF YOU CAN HELP ASAPH IN ANY OF THESE 4 AREAS, PLEASE DO.

SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER. REQUEST BROCHURES TO SHARE WITH FRIENDS.

SHARE OUR WEBSITE : www.asaphteachingministry.com SHARE OUR FACEBOOK POSTS.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF THE DAILY MINISTRY HERE IN HAITI!!

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever.”

Psalm 118:1

Tax deductible contributions can be made to:

ASAPH Teaching Ministry

Mail to:

Christ Lutheran Church
c/o ASAPH Teaching Ministry
126 W. Main St.
Dallastown, PA 17313

Phone: (717) 244-2605

www.asaphteachingministry.com



E-mail: andyclairstump@yahoo.com

Cell in Haiti: 011-509-3872-8186

Cell in USA: 717-719-9085

The official registration and financial information of Asaph Teaching Ministry may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

MINISTRY NEWS

- The Brass Band is busy filling holes left by players who have finished school and are out of town. Progress is good. Several beginners are also very promising.
- The soccer team has played no games lately. Training and teaching continue.
- The Jr. Youth group and 11-14 year-old Sunday school class have been active. Many of them make up a new worship team that leads worship a few times each year.
- The ASAPH Bible recitation program is taking root again after a period of dormancy.
- Andy has formed an all-girls choir. They rehearse each week at the ASAPH Teaching Center...about 30 voices plus drummer and bassist.
- Our church hosts a savings program for kids age 12 to 17. This month we had so many kids sign up, we had to turn many away. Imagine that !

ASAPH's Board of Directors:

Andy Stump Richard Cleary George Sipe

Kirby Rhodes Carl Bender Sandy Bender

MARCH 15, 2020

Asaph's 2020 fundraising concert was cancelled.

One year has passed.

Remember ASAPH in your budget this month!

MISSIONARIES GO THERE

I am a **missionary**. Missionaries go there. We leave "here" to work with people who are "there". We go because they can never come to us. The people I see night and day in Haiti will never be able to follow me to Pennsylvania. They will never once spend a Christmas holiday with me in the USA, or a summer vacation, or a weekend, or even an evening. Where they are is where they will be.

There is no price my friends can pay. There is no lottery they could ever win that would open the door for them to come to me. Exchange programs and other possibilities do exist on paper, but I have a better chance of becoming an NFL offensive-line coach than most Haitians have of qualifying for a chance to legally leave the **island**. Those who do "make it out" of Haiti by hook or crook often live in hiding wherever they land.

In Haiti, I can eat and drink with the people to whom I minister. I can play with them....there. I can teach them...there. I can learn from them...there. I can live and die with them there also, but I **can't come home** with them. I can't leave Haiti with them. So, because they are there, I will be there, too...with them.

In a marriage ceremony, people say things like : 'I will be where you are...good, bad, happy, sad...me with you...together.' When a missionary goes to the field, it is the same thing : 'I choose to be here with you.'

God gave us that example, in Jesus Christ. He "went there" because we could not make it to him. He came and called His bride. He lived down here. He **pitched His tent** with us. That has got to be one the greatest images of all time. Emmanuel – God with us! After climbing the tree on Calvary to pay the price for His bride, He prepares a place for her and will return to take her with Him. Hebrew weddings followed that pattern. God's salvation is the real Marriage to which all marriages point.

You cannot get around the fact that Jesus came to us. **He came here**. That changes everything. That changed me. That changed what I did with my life. I am a missionary because it's not about where we are. It's about who we are.

In Christ, there is no longer "here" and "there".

In Christ, there is no longer "rich" and "poor".

Every missionary is sent. Thank you for sending me.

Thank you for being a part of the work that happens every day here in a tiny coastal village.

With your help, we are presenting Christ in a rural Haitian community...one lesson at a time.

Andy Stump - Missionary



PALM SUNDAY with the children at MICEVA Church...



Years ago we began doing a Palm Sunday activity with the kids at church. Donkeys are easy to find here. In 2021, we continued the tradition. Roman soldiers (background) try to quell the worship. Pharisees (far right) try as well. The gentle King explains it all for them.



Andy and a group of ASAPH's young jazz musicians play the blues for a youth activity at a church in *Vieux-bourg*.

Swinging and improvising in the town of *Vieux-bourg, d'Aquin!*

THESE ACTIVITIES, AND MANY MORE, ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU. SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!

Asaph's newest project : a girls choir!

Thirty young ladies working together and building for tomorrow.

