

Spring 2023

Asaph UPDATE

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

From: Andy

Greetings from Haiti! I flew back into the country without any problems along the way, and I am thankful for that. Daily life is getting more and more difficult all over Haiti. I am wealthy here and only taste pieces of what people are living through.

I have been “blessed” to be without water for a time here at my house. It helps me understand everyone around me. When water is hard to acquire, you wash less, you drink less, and you clean less. Likewise, when money is really not available you make all kinds of compromises. I was able to share some vitamins with many people that I know are not eating well. In spite of the real struggles going on, people here remain bright and full of life in general. People in Haiti have hope. Many realize that their hopes may not be realized on this side of death. They are trapped here...for now. Still, they move ahead with their lives. I am here to teach, but I learn every day from the people around me. Pray for the good, sweet, generous people of Haiti.

Mango season is upon us! God faithfully fills the bellies here in our town, and mango trees are part of how He does it. This season is a favorite time of year for many.



AAF—ASAPH Academy of Football (Soccer)



Coach *Jude Medoit* dedicated several years of his life to training the young men of the ASAPH soccer academy. Boys became men under his leadership. We spent hours together sharing ideas about what a man should be, and the examples Jesus Christ gives men to follow. We sweated together under the hot Haitian sun. We swam, played, and ate together, and we served our community. We lost games. We won games. We lived through other kinds of defeats and victories as well.

Jude is now the principal at a primary school nearby. He is unable to coach the team. Four of his AAF disciples are doing that now. One teaches FIFA's laws of soccer. One leads physical training. One is teaching strategy and technique. One is serving as chaplain of the team overseeing the academic life, home life, and spiritual life of the young players. It is a beautiful thing to see and administrate. The AAF soccer academy really is preparing tomorrow's leaders...again.





**Matthew recovers
from broken leg.**



Palm Sunday



AAF v. Pisale



**Preparing to
recite Bible
passages**



**Plant today.
Eat tomorrow.**



Asaph
TEACHING MINISTRY

THESE ACTIVITIES, AND MANY MORE, ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY
SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU.
THANKS FOR BLESSING PEOPLE IN FAR AWAY PLACES !

Whose Heart Is Thankful?

“The sacrifice that honors me is a thankful heart.”

Psalm 50:23 — An Asaph Psalm

Psalm 50:23 is ASAPH Teaching Ministry's special passage for the year 2023. It's written on a big sheet of paper hanging in the teaching center. We recite it, discuss it, and try to practice it.

Those of us who know God find it easy to thank Him for good things...big and small. We see His hand, and we thank Him. It can become a habit...if you practice.

But then trouble comes, and we quickly turn to God only asking for solutions. It is not natural to say: "God, thanks for the broken leg." It's not easy to say: "I thank you for this problem."

World-wide, these are hard days. People in developing countries have no cushion to help them absorb tough times like these. They don't have bank accounts. There is no insurance or back-up coverage of any kind. Life is lived on the edge here. When the world's economy suffers, the lower tiers feel it more dramatically. A skinny society gets skinnier. People live with fewer meals, with less education, and with dramatic choices. Do you pay for an operation, or buy food? Do you finish this academic year, or buy shoes to go to church?

I pay attention to prayers that I hear people pray. Sometimes in the quickened pace of American life, our prayers of thanksgiving last only a few phrases. However, I often hear people in Haiti praying thankful prayers that go on and on. You would think the wealthier society would have the longer thanksgiving list. It is proof that it's not about what you possess. It's the kind of heart you have as you live life. The thankful heart honors God.

How thankful are we, really? Take some time to thank God, and don't skip the details. There is nothing too small to note...remember water, air, gravity, light...language, teaching.

When in real trouble, can we even thank God for those tough days He has chosen for us in His omniscience? That is true praise. "Thank you for sunshine. Thank you for rain. Thank you for good times, and thank you for pain." When in trouble, we can be assured that God is doing the measuring. He is orchestrating the harmony and allowing for discord also, leading His Creation in perfect progression. He still reigns on high no matter how bad our situation is today.

"Thank You, God, for the realities of life today on planet Earth. Thank You for what we enjoy, and for what we detest, for what makes us joyful and for what makes us afraid. We praise You."

Andy Stump - Missionary





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

Psalm 118:1

Tax deductible contributions can be made to:

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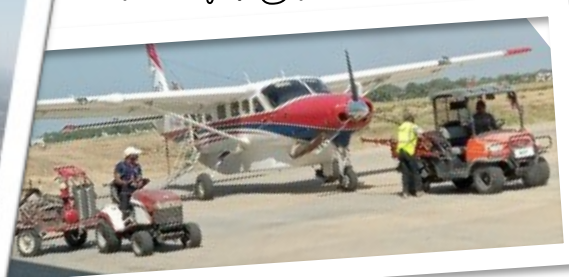
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The official registration and financial information of Asaph Teaching Ministry may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

MINISTRY NEWS

- The AAF SENIOR soccer team recorded one loss, one tie, and one win in April. Each game has its own lessons, with personal victories and failures along the way. We are building character!
- The Junior Youth group led worship on the last Sunday of April. They prepared a sketch and message based on Abraham and Isaac...Genesis 22.
- After a long time of waiting, the ASAPH Bible recitation program has acquired Bibles that we can use as awards.
- ASAPH AGRICUTLURE hosted a great program on May 1st. The ASAPH girl's choir and the brass band teamed up to celebrate Agriculture and Work Day...a national holiday. We recognized faithful workers in our community with gifts and certificates.
- The Children's Department at church presented the annual JESUS RIDES INTO JERUSALEM drama on Palm Sunday...complete with donkey.

Overnight in Port-au-Prince, and the flight out...



ASAPH's Board of Directors:

Andy Stump

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