

Kay Papa News

Kay Papa Nou & Unity House - September 2015 (Joyce Kruse)

"My prayer is for God to bless the Govans Church and Roland Park, Mr. Wayne, Pastor Tom, Pator Mark, Mr. Ted and Joyce. I don't have anything to offer them but my love and respect. May God Almighty bless them forevermore." ~ Gaelle

Trip to the Supermarket

The orphanages get their food from a variety of sources including street vendors and small stores. We took a trip to a supermarket, something we do each time I visit. Usually only Danny, David and two or three older girls go to the supermarket. The getting-ready phase of the adventure took an unexpected amount of time because everyone wanted to clean and dress up for the excursion. To my surprise, ten of us ended up going including David's three young children. David's children were fascinated and surprised by the cold/freezer section. Soon the amazement turned into giggling delight. KPN has no refrigeration but sometimes has ice. The store was air conditioned which is unusual in Haiti and after some time, David took his daughter out of the store because she was cold.

Band Practice & Worship

The band plays at least three hymns each Sunday. The rehearsal on Saturday included a few boys who came across town from Unity House. Their teacher was strict, stopping the band so every mistake could be corrected. They were preparing hymns including "The Old Rugged Cross" for the Sunday worship service. Yousadly, one of

the older girls, leads the band on Sunday. Danny and some of the children provide vocals for the band. The band and music has enriched the



children's lives.

Their Sunday performances

also provide a real sense of accomplishment.



Worship in Haiti is never a sixty-minute or less event. David read a letter from Pastor Tom. Yousadly sat next to me during David's sermon and provided a translation. Translation while someone is publicly speaking is difficult because there are no pauses to catch up. I spoke to David after the sermon and Yousadly provided a highly accurate translation of his sermon.

2015 Has Been Plagued with Medical Problems

Lubny, who was seriously injured in an automobile accident, is nearly completely healed. He had several skin grafts and other surgeries during the past year. Gaelle, one of the older girls, was hospitalized when the steel gate at Kay Papa Nou came off the tracks pinning her under the gate. No broken bones and she has completely recovered. Danny had abdominal pain and fatigue but now is doing better.

Sanitation in Haiti

Port-au-Prince is probably one of the largest cities in the world without a water or sewage system. The sanitation, especially along the road from KPN to Unity House, seems



to have worsened since my last visit. The smell of sewage or rotting garbage is prevalent and the streets were littered with trash. These conditions in Haiti are saddening

For information on how you can help the children in Haiti, please call: Govans Presbyterian Church 410-435-8189, Roland Park Presbyterian Church 410-889-2001, Neighbors Near & Far 443-904-1149. Kay Papa Nou and Unity House are also supported by Brown Memorial Woodbrook Presbyterian Church 410-377-7232 and The Daughters of Dorcas 410-484-5162. Thank you.

and painful. (“Haiti’s Shadow Sanitation System” – The New Yorker, March 12, 2014, is an interesting read).

Start of School



The children have begun the school year. The high school students now use donated computers for homework assignments. David wants to add another room to the school in Cannan that would be used as a computer lab. The school has computers that Wayne Fritze from RPPC shipped to Haiti through World Computer Exchange. The room would need solar panels with batteries to power the computers and sturdy desks (all supplies to build this room could be purchased in Haiti). David’s school in Canaan is attended by approximately 15 children from the neighborhood. So far, parents have not contributed financially to the school. Only about ten percent of children complete school in Haiti. These children at least have an opportunity for education because David won’t turn them away.

Melissa

Melissa, a former orphaned girl at KPN, returned to her family six years ago. She recently stopped by to visit KPN but no one recognized her. She has not attended school since leaving KPN, ran away from

her home, and has turned to a street life, involved with men, to survive. The children who were given to David and Danny certainly have prospered compared to Melissa whose family was unable to provide for her. No one knows where David’s children will be in the years beyond high school but they have a strong foundation with strong moral values and a belief in giving back. They will always have a family with David and Danny. By

providing the basic needs for the children, we are giving them much more – a family that would not exist otherwise.



Truck taking children to school

At The End of The Day

The joy and laughter of the children at KPN and Unity House is wonderful to witness. At day’s end, chores done by children as well as adults, sitting on a wooden bench, listening to conversation, watching children play, a tranquility and peace sinks in. It was moving to see Joshua, Danny’s brother-in-law, holding his 1-1/2 year-old son Nick and singing softly to him. No laptops, no games, no refreshments, just the end to a day under a



beautiful sky, less heat, and a little breeze.



David & Danny Guillaume

Thank you friends who support the children at KPN & UH. Thank you to Govans for the September Communion Offering and to Hannah Pickworth for a suitcase full of lovely dresses.



Solar panels provide electricity during frequent electricity lapses.

