

# HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORTS

## UPDATE APRIL 6, 2010

JOHN L. KACHELMAN, JR.

In the continuing effort to keep you updated on the actions we are taking to assist brethren in Haiti as they continue to recover from the devastating earthquake I am sending you this brief update report. One segment of the news here has already been emailed out on Sunday morning but the other items are fresh news.

### GENEROSITY ABOUNDING MORE AND MORE...

One of the very first congregations that responded saying they planned to send Judsonia money to help purchase food and relief commodities was the Dalraida congregation in Montgomery, AL. This is a wonderful congregation and they are regular supporters of my mission efforts. I was able to be with the Dalraida brethren the Sunday prior to the devastating earthquake. The elders announced that the congregation was sending funds to assist our brethren as they worked to minister to those harmed and displaced. Listening to this announcement was the David and Carol Baker family. When their children heard the announcement and realized the devastation in Haiti, they wanted to help. They brought their piggy banks to Carol and told her they wanted to send "their money" to help Haiti. The piggy banks were emptied and \$19.00 was sent to the

Judsonia elders to use in the relief assistance. Upon receiving the money the Judsonia elders sent an acknowledgement to Isabella, Davis, and Lily. When asked if I could mention their encouraging act and David wrote: *"That would be ok with us. They received a thank you letter from the elders this week, and they were excited about the letter and the help the letter said their money was accomplishing. David."*

I know the news of this fine Christian family will encourage you as it did me. In spite of the horrific pain that the earthquake brought to Haiti, there is an incredible amount of good that is surfacing. God does not send bad things because He is not evil BUT God will use the bad things of this world to highlight the wonderful things that result from the divine love.



Lily (3), Davis (5), Isabella (7)

I am thankful for the Dalraida congregation and their impact upon so many lives like Isabella, Davis, and Lily. I am thankful for David and Carol and the many other families that are committed to instilling basic values of love and compassion and selfless service on behalf of those suffering!

### FIRST REPORT SENT TO USA GOVERNMENT ON CONTAINERS...

I have just completed the first report that is required by the government's transportation assist programs to validate the integrity of our commitment of compliance to provide relief commodities to all in need. I will be glad to forward this to any that would like to read it. If you wish to receive a copy please reply to this email and request a copy of REPORT #1 sent to the USA government. All that have sent funds for the relief efforts that are being coordinated by the Judsonia Church and out of the Life Resources International warehouse will automatically receive a copy of this report IF you have requested that your email address be added to the Haiti Relief Mail-List. We will also post a copy of this on the Judsonia web site ([www.judsoniachurchofchrist.org](http://www.judsoniachurchofchrist.org)).

## DISTRIBUTION NEWS FROM BRETHERN IN GONAIVES, HAITI...

One of the locations first identified and suggested as a good place for receiving and distribution of benevolence items was the Lord's Church located in Gonaives, Haiti. This location has now received a container (the second is to be received tomorrow—Wednesday 7 April). Our brother Pacius is doing a wonderful job in coordinating matters. Pacius was recommended to us as one who was eager to see the job done but did not have to be in the spotlight or a micro-manager of the actions and those good words have proven to be true. Pacius has been emailing reports and pictures to David Smith who has forwarded them to me and the contacts in Washington. Here are the emails that Pacius has sent back along with David's discussion on the process our brethren is following to assure the integrity of the distribution and the prominence of the Lord's Church in the benevolence activities. As you read these communications I think you will be encouraged by your brethren's efforts and put faces with the prayers you are praying for Haiti!

**From:** gveston pacius  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 03, 2010 8:29 PM  
**To:** David E Smith

Hi Dr. David,

We have a big today to load two containers of 25 feet to go to Port-au-Prince. The Comitee choose one of the Elders to oversee that. We project to go to Gros-Morne where there are 30 refugees and Bayonnais, there are more than 20. I will send more pictures next time for Poteau, Bois Marchand, Bayonnais, Gros-Morne, etc. We are trying to do the best we can to get more people we can. Please keep praying for us as we are working to please our Lord through these people.

In Christ Service, Gveston Pacius

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**From:** David E Smith



If you look carefully at these children and adults at the Bois Marchand farm, all of them have low body mass indexes (they aren't fat – quite lean – don't eat much!).

Two of the elders from Poteau went to assist other committee members with the food distribution at Port au Prince. Tomorrow, it will be going to members and friends.

Gros Morne and Bayonaiss are places where we visited and saw refugees in our clinics. What a blessing it will be to take food to them. As Pacius notes below, they plan to take more pictures after those distributions are made. Pacius says that the hygiene kits are so popular – giving them ways to care that they have not had available.

This was a very happy day for many people. Pacius and his helpers are seeking the people who need the help the most. Thus, more reports will be coming.

***So many people associated with the churches of Christ throughout the US need to be thanked for such wonderful work. Thank you to our special friends at Counterpart who have patiently and persistently worked to get these containers delivered. These are such wonderful gifts that are making a real difference and making many friends for the church.***





**From:** gueston pacius  
**Sent:** Monday, April 05, 2010 8:23 PM  
**Subject:** Food distribution at Poteau!

I was at **Poteau** today to see how they share the buckets of food and hygiene kits. Three Elders and several ladies did the distribution. Here are some pictures of some of the Port au Prince refugees that we served.

They also had a meeting with brethren of **Bayonnais** to plan the distribution of food **tomorrow**. The preachers told us how difficult the life is there. The food is timely—a blessing to many. They cannot grow anything this time year. They do not know how to feed their families. They went to ask some aid organization to get food, but they did not find any.

You can see the bare mountains and talk about their sad farms. They are waiting the rain to start to grow. They would like to plant but there is no way. It has not rained in Bayonnais since December. You can imagine the situation they face. People live from the food of their gardens. A very few have a small business to feed their family, but they have nothing else.



***"Praise Lord we have some people, our brothers and in the States, that know our situation and help us to survive. We were starving but not anymore—with the food you brought to us. We heard there are food distributions in many places, but we went there and because we did not have a card, we could not get food. Sometimes, we walked two hours to get food, but we get back empty and hungry. We praise Lord for you every day because our Lord uses you to feed us and make us clean. Thank you Brothers and Sisters!"***  
Some ladies from Bayonnais and Poteau

