

It happened in 2019

A look back speaks volumes about this past year.

(January 15th, 2020)

- A team in January made a trip to Haiti
- February's team canceled due to unrest
- Dr S. Spent a little extra time in Haiti as it became impossible to reach the airport
- Fuel prices spiked even reaching around \$18.00 US a gallon for a time
- Roads were shut down across the country
- Food and medicines became scarce with distribution being hampered
- Meetings were canceled as EMEVI pastor's were unable to gather
- Prices on food items brought further misery to the people
- Riots took place in multiple places across the country
- Schools were closed for a time as it was unsafe for children and adults to be out
- Leadership Conference canceled
- Nov team postponed for a year

The list goes on, but know that our God does not change! He is faithful and hears our pleas. As it became possible, Marcel started the process of gathering food items to be distributed to, not only, EMEVI churches/schools but also, to the communities and even the prisoners in St Marc jail. So, how did this come together? Marcel made known the needs and you responded, as the Lord lead. Numerous trips were made by Marcel and his team in all kinds of circumstances which included paying "bribes" to pass through on roads that were blocked. Still, the Lord opened the door for all the details to come together.

For those that are children sponsors, this past year would have been our time to collect new photos and info regarding those children. As, by now, you've noticed there are no photo's included. Even now, we are waiting to hear from Marcel about when he thinks it may be safe to pay him a visit. When that door opens, we will do our best to make a trip to update that info and pass it on to you. The school year has been extended to August and the new school year will start in September. Short break for all concerned! Most of the rural schools were able to continue with schooling but not so with those closer to the cities, until recently.

Your faithfulness truly blows us away. Each year as we process the end of year statements it moves our hearts as we see just how the Lord continues to use each of us to reach out to His body of believers. A short story came to mind that is included on the reverse side of this. Even when I'm thinking that this is just a drop in the bucket He reminds me that this is what He's called me/us to do. Reach out to those in need.

And from Isaiah 58:6 & 7 Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter — when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Once upon a time, there was an old man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach every morning before he began his work. Early one morning, he was walking along the shore after a big storm had passed and found the vast beach littered with starfish as far as the eye could see, stretching in both directions.

Off in the distance, the old man noticed a small boy approaching. As the boy walked, he paused every so often and as he grew closer, the man could see that he was occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The boy came closer still and the man called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young boy paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can't return to the sea by themselves," the youth replied. "When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water."

The old man replied, "But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make much of a difference."

The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one!"

adapted from The Star Thrower, by Loren Eiseley (1907 – 1977)

Worship at Fond MaBlanc, this is a backpacking trip to visit here.

You are making a difference!

Many blessings is the New Year,
From your Hope for Haiti Board,
Thank you!

