

Haiti Mission Trip 2003

April 23, 2003



Dear Michael:

I want to tell you how grateful I am for the wonderful contribution you have made to the people of Haiti. The toothbrushes, toothpaste, Listerine and Advil will be so appreciated by the children and their parents. We will distribute them through the New Hope Ministries' school, as well as the rural medical clinic and orphanage. I hope to take some photos to share with you of all the smiling faces as they receive these gifts of love and compassion.

This will be the second year I have been given an opportunity to serve the people of Haiti for ten days, June 27 through July 7 with a mission team from West Hills Community Church in Westmont, Illinois. This team, numbering around 10-11 and under the leadership of Melinda Cribaro, my sister, will be helping New Hope Ministries in their outreach to the Haitian people in Cap Haitian and the surrounding rural areas.

New Hope Ministries was established in 1991 and their work in Haiti includes: church planting with discipleship emphasis, elementary education for illiterate children, a nutritional program that would provide one hot meal a day, and the development of a Christian training center to help Haitians become self-supporting.

Several possible projects of service will include: Bible study and prayer in home cell groups, distributing food to homes in the rural areas, visiting the orphanage near Cap Haitian, constructing benches in one of the mission church and school complex and constructing part of a new mission school.

We will be given housing and meals at Good Shepherd—Mission Bon Berger, in Milot. It is the compound of Good Shepherd Ministries—housing facilities, school buildings, nutritional center for feeding school children, kitchen and dining room facilities. It works in cooperation with New Hope Ministries' visiting teams.

I have personally been affiliated with the Good Shepherd Ministries for over twenty years and have marveled at the dedication and commitment of the missionaries who founded and kept this mission alive throughout the trials and political upheavals that have stricken the Haitians for so long.

Again, thank you,
In His Love and In His Service,

Merrily Schiavone



Scenes from our 2002 mission trip.

Left: our team on the truck, our transportation to work sites. Above: the kids are enjoying blowing bubbles with Bonnie, a mission team member. Lower right: Our team painting rooms of a rural medical clinic.