



New Look For a New Year

In order to keep our loyal readers up-to-date with the latest news from the NVM Campus in Chambrun, Haiti, we have changed the format of *Nehemiah's Voice*.



Adult church goers were packed into the church building for the service, while the children watched the service via closed-circuit television in a tent erected outside the church building.



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Chapelle d'Adoration Celebrates Three Years!

On Sunday, January 15th, the Chapelle d'Adoration, celebrated its third year with a major celebration. The church, which serves the people of Chambrun, Haiti, was opened on January 2009.

Pulling out all the stops with a three and one half hour service and celebration, over 1000 people attended the third anniversary festivities for the Chapelle d'Adoration on Sunday, January 15th. Pastor Pierre and his family led the service and spoke of the joy that the church has brought to the community of Chambrun.

Preparations for the event included pitching a giant tent to serve the overflow crowd. A 22 member GAIN USA team from Hanson Baptist Church in Kentucky arrived on campus on Saturday and were immediately put to work. They put up a big tent to handle the overflow of people and constructed temporary showers for a large group staying overnight on the NVM campus.

Many friends of Pastor Pierre attended the service along with members of several other church congregations from around Haiti. It was a special time for Espérandieu and his entire family to be surrounded by so many dear friends.

The third anniversary was held in the third different place in the church's three years of existence. The congregation quickly outgrew the original church/school building where the congregation met the first year and three months.

In April 2010, a large circus-like tent was erected just months after Haiti's devastating earthquake. It was there that the second anniversary was held in January of 2011. That tent served well, but came down several times due to high winds from large storms and hurricanes.

On Easter Sunday in April 2011, the church was moved to its current location, the former dining hall, when the new dining hall built by Mercy Response was opened on the volunteer side of campus. The church had undergone some updates, including fresh paint and a multi-media projection system so that words for hymns and songs could be projected on the front screen during services. Eventually, as more funds and tithes are collected, a new permanent building will be built to serve the ever-growing needs of the congregation.

Praise be to God for all He has done in three short years and what He will bring in the years to come!

Hospital Update

The start of the new year in Haiti has brought two significant updates on the hospital. Randy White and his team from Extreme Missionary Adventures has the sewer system installed. Don Bradley's team has the electrical work done and running on the hospital.



Davidson sleeping after a bath...

Low Grade Fever

by Aubree Dell, NVM Nurse

“How it leaves this ache in the pit of my stomach that does not seem to go away. It was then he compared it to having a constant low grade fever of sadness.”

I have been trying to blog for a couple months now, and feel as though I cannot get my words to match my feelings and emotions. I have lived in Haiti for over 18 months and yet my heart breaks just as much as it did day one. Haiti is beautiful and hopeful, but at the same time it has this chronic cloud of injustice hanging over it that does not seem to break.

I spoke with Aaron Elliott once about this cloud and how it leaves this ache in the pit of my stomach that does not seem to go away. It was then he compared it to having a constant low grade fever of sadness. It never quite goes away because I cannot erase the experiences I have been exposed to, especially while living in Haiti. Sometimes I wish I could forget, and not have to think about the children in the village that tell me they are hungry and have not eaten in a few days, or the mothers who are holding their sick children and saying, “I cannot pay to come to the clinic, please can you help me?” I see constant financial struggles related to how a family spends their

money... Do I go to the clinic for health care for me? For my child? Do I send my child to school instead? Or do I buy groceries to feed the family?

It is this constant ache in my heart that doesn't go away because there is not an easy solution. I cannot just tell everyone to bring their child to the clinic without paying, or give the entire food pantry to everyone that cries of hunger. This would only continue toward building a dependency on me and on NVM, which would not be healthy for either relationship. We as an organization want to help develop pride and self esteem in our friends, not cause them to continue to think they need our help to meet all their needs.

I am currently having a large spike in my fever. I would say about 105 degree Farenheight. HaHa. Seriously though, there is another “Rose” in my life that I cannot get out of my head for the past two months. His name is Davidson. Davidson lives near Baby Rose, and has a very similar story.

Mom doesn't want him and leaves him with grandma who is taking care of 3 other grandchildren. He is constantly dirty, naked, sitting alone or laying in the dirt till the nurses arrive to scoop him up while we visit.

Davidson had been sick in November and his 10 year old cousin and her friends brought him to the clinic. He had an awful rash and looked skeletal. We treated him and continued to watch him over the next month and he continually lost weight and became more and more lethargic. We would give him formula, but it would quickly be shared and gone within the same day.

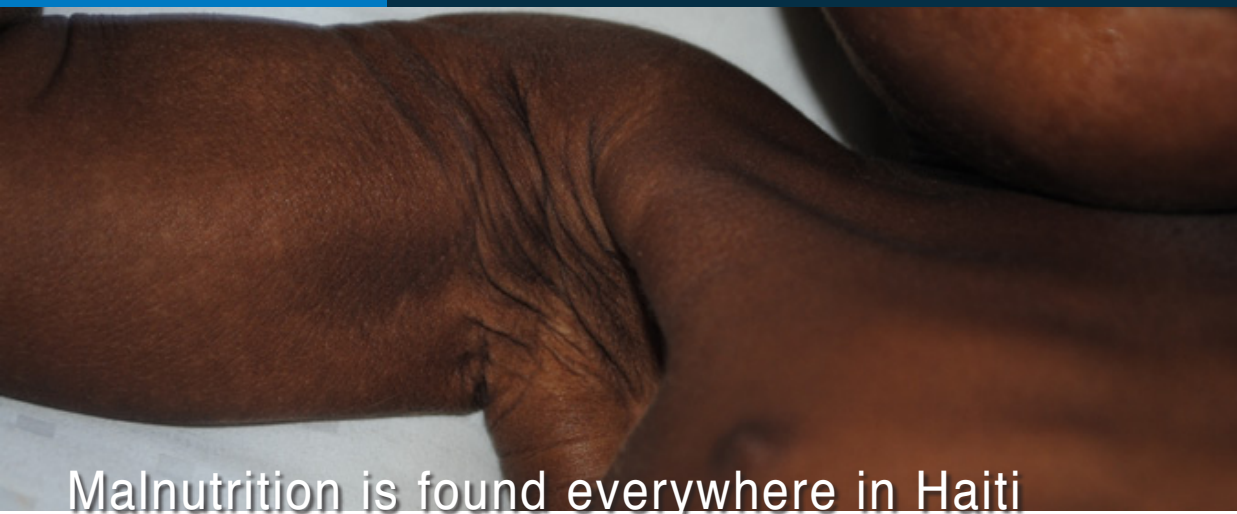
In December we walked down to the village and saw Davidson lying in the dirt not moving. We were not sure whether he was dead or alive. Etienne slowly walked over to him and saw his back rise and fall again. She picked him up and it was evident he was literally starving. His lips were dry and his skin flacky. He had not eaten in who knows how long. Fortunately, he had enough strength to chug down the



Sponsorship Update

Amazing growth! That's the best description of what's happening with the sponsorship program. We have had 23 kids sponsored over the last three months! We are scrambling to make more kids available to be sponsored as the website is down to just seven children without sponsors. Also please keep the sponsor packs coming. The kids are really excited to receive your gifts!





Malnutrition is found everywhere in Haiti

pediasure I had in my bag. I asked around about what was going on and spoke to grandma about the severity of Davidson's health. I told her he would die if they did not start feeding him and taking better care of him. She understood but could not afford to feed her other children, and with no one fighting for Davidson he continued to slip away.

My return from Christmas vacation didn't bring any better news as Davidson's mom taken him to another location. Now I couldn't even give him an occasional bottle of pediasure. My friend Natacha informed me "Oh Aubree, he is not good. His feet and arms are inflamed, his skin is

sloughing off, and his belly is big and round." This description instantly took me back to a little girl Kacie and I saw in the clinic months before. We called her our princess pajama girl. She ended up passing away and provided me my first heart breaking exposure to malnutrition at its worse.

I have not seen Davidson since I have been back from my Christmas vacation and I have been begging the grandma to bring him to the clinic. I asked pastor if we could intervene in some way, and he said yes but we must go about it properly. I am working on getting the mom to bring him to Chambrun so we can monitor his food intake and see what

Dr. Edmond recommends. I hope eventually we can put him in a children's home that will be able to offer him more than what we can at this time.

I wish I could end this blog by saying Davidson is safe and being taken care of, but I cannot. I wish I could say my faith is strong and I do not worry or lose sleep over him at night, but I cannot say that either. I can only continue to trust that God's beautiful story for Davidson's life is written and that He has a perfect plan for him!



Update on Davidson...

by E'Tienne York, NVM Nurse

There's nothing like a ray of sunshine to brighten ones day. Two days after Aubree talked with Pastor; I am holding Davidson in my arms with such joy and hope in knowing that his life-story has many more chapters still to come.

The process of intervening has begun. Davidson...our little ray of sunshine has found us again!

Davidson's journey is just beginning. God has a plan for him and we know that it is far more than we could ever dream for this sweet little boy. As nurses, we are asking you to join us in prayer for Davidson. Please pray that God will give us and NVM the wisdom in making decisions. Please pray that as nurses and sisters in Christ we will be able to speak words of affirmation and love to his mom and encourage her. That ultimately Davidson's family, neighbors, and friends will all see Christ glorified in all things.

A Quick Look Around Campus

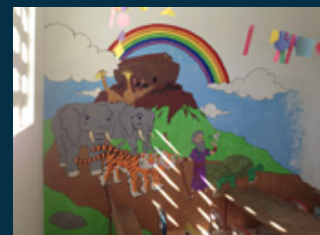
Many of our readers have asked to see pictures of the changes on campus. With short-term mission teams coming weekly, many of you have been involved with a small part of an on-going project or building and wish to see some of the fruits of your labor, so enjoy!



Fencing is going up around the agricultural project area across from the entrance to campus.



The roof is on the new children's home as working continues to make it ready to receive children.



A team from Genesis Church in Noblesville, Indiana painted murals on the inside of the preschool classrooms in early January.

Genesis Was Here!

by Katie Hutchens, NVM Missionary

Earlier this month, the January Genesis team was here. It was so good to see (at least some of) our church family from back home! While they were here, we got to be a part of their group time at night, got to eat with them at every meal, and even went to the beach with them one day which was SO fun!

We both miss our church family VERY MUCH so it was SO great to have them here. They worked a TON while they were here, too! They started AND finished painting our entire clinic here on campus,

they built and set up a latrine for a start-up church that is located in Onaville. Onaville is a place where now, since the earthquake, nearly 200,000 people live, it is the largest IDP (Internally Displaced People) Camp in Haiti.

On top of those things, Terry Trowbridge (an amazing artist, so thankful he was here...) created, drew, and painted (and instructed the team on how/what to paint, alongside his wife) Three large murals on the walls of our kindergarten and preschool classrooms!

They all worked SO hard to get it finished before they left! Many of the team stayed up until the wee hours of the morning the day before they left so that it would be COMPLETELY finished!

The murals are outstanding! Terry also sketched and painted a Mickey Mouse on the outside of the kindergarten classrooms too! The kids and teachers love all of them!

Two GAIN USA Teams Kickoff the New Year

by Jim Warner, GAIN USA Missionary

Last week we had a GAIN mission team made up of groups from two churches: Messiah Lutheran from Texas and Hillside Lutheran from New Jersey. They had a great week! They finished strong and saw God do many things. They distributed water filter systems to 120 families and in the process saw 13 people come to Christ. They also did a wide variety of other projects on the NVM compound. A big thanks to all of them. Here you see them with their interpreters and being thanked by the pastor of the church plant in Onaville.

On Saturday, our second team of 2012 arrived. Yes, they were back to back. This team is comprised of 22 team members from Hanson Baptist Church in Kentucky and two other dear friends. Jaye Grattan, who is on the GAIN staff and Sandy Stageburg, who is one of Cheryl's life-long friends.

NVM is starting a large-scale agriculture project. We are currently fencing in just over 10 acres and our team is helping with the project. At the pace we are going, the project will be completed soon.

On the NVM compound there is always work to do in the warehouse. And just a few days ago a 40-foot container arrived.

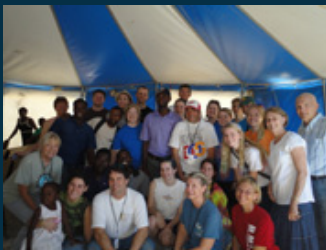
Both yesterday and today our team has been involved in sorting items and putting things in their place. One of the other projects was taking down the large tent that was put up for the church's 3rd anniversary celebration last Sunday. Many hands make light work.

Throughout the week three guys on our team joined a group of electricians who were wiring the new hospital on the NVM compound. That group didn't expect to com-

plete the job. But with the help of our guys and the Lord they got it all finished. They are ready to turn on the electricity. This means that the finishing work can begin. We are praying about opening the hospital by the fall of this year.

A number of the GAIN ladies are helping Cheryl with her weekly sewing and jewelry making classes. It is always special to work closely with these dear Haitian ladies.

We want to say a special thank you to this great group from Hanson Baptist Church from Hanson, Kentucky. And also on the team are our dear friends Jaye Grattan and Sandy Stageberg. They were a fantastic team. And thanks to all of you for praying. Over the week we ministered to 255 people and 35 people prayed to receive Christ. We know that you were praying..



Want to Know More?

If you are interested in learning more about Nehemiah Vision Ministries, please take a moment to visit our website at:
www.nehemiahvisionministries.org

