

# at the WELL

TURNING POINT MISSIONS

SPECIAL  
EDITION  
NOVEMBER 2023

## HEART OF HAITI: A TAPESTRY OF LOVE AND COMPASSION

**"If you feel the Lord is telling you to go back to Haiti, then you should go, and the Lord will watch over you."**

Upon hearing these words from my wife, Elise, I bought a ticket the next day, and left for Haiti on Friday, November 3rd. I just returned from a week in Cap Haitien, Haiti. The trip was a long time in coming and not taken without some apprehension due to the current situation in Haiti.

My first confirmation that the trip was suppose to be taken came when I arrived at the Ft. Lauderdale airport and ran into Zack who I had meet nearly four years earlier on the way to Haiti in January of 2020. We talked for quite a while sharing the reasons we were both headed back to Haiti. Haitian teams had continued both of our missions while we were unable to return. Now we both felt the call to return. We both soon discovered that our Haitian teams had successfully carried out our missions while we were unable to return.

All further apprehension about returning was totally removed when I attended church services at Pastor Gelin's church Sunday morning. Pastor Gelin preached on Isaiah 41: 7-13 which reminds us not to fear, for the Lord strengthens us, upholds us with His right hand and is always with us. The Lord knew I needed to hear that message and my friend Pastor Gelin was called on to deliver that word to his congregation and me. From that point on I knew Haiti was where I should be. It was great to see the church your funds built during Covid, and the smiles of joy and hope seen on the faces of the congregation members as they worshipped.



I stayed at our new mission house which TPM rents from the Haitian Baptist Convention. We moved our operations to the house in April of 2023 and Pastor Gelin with his family live in the house. They will host our US teams when they return to Haiti. The house has three bedrooms and a bunk house that will sleep 10. Pastor Judelin and his family joined us for dinner several evenings during the week. It was great to spend time with both pastors and their families. It was a busy time with five children playing in the house but great to renew relationships. We often center our attention on getting work done on these trips and don't spend enough time nurturing the relationships that make our mission work really worthwhile. This has often been the case with me personally. It was good to have the time to really live life together.

Other highlights from the trip include:

- We encountered a problem with the existing well at the farm which necessitated drilling a new well for the farming operations. Although not what we planned on, it allowed our Haitian water team members and me to spend time together with the members of the Haitian farming co-op, plus the young people from the area who always come to watch a well being drilled.
- With the help of members of the farming co-op and some of the children we laid out the irrigation piping



at the farm site. I explained to the co-op members how the irrigation equipment works through the use of the equipment operations manuals and preassembled parts we shipped to Haiti. It was another relationship building and mentoring time, as well as time for encouraging the co-op members in their ability to use the new equipment.

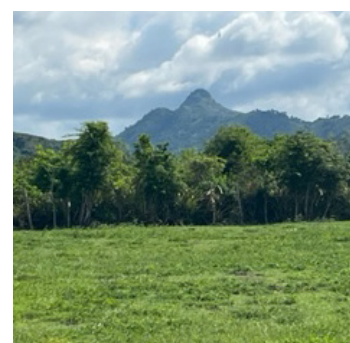
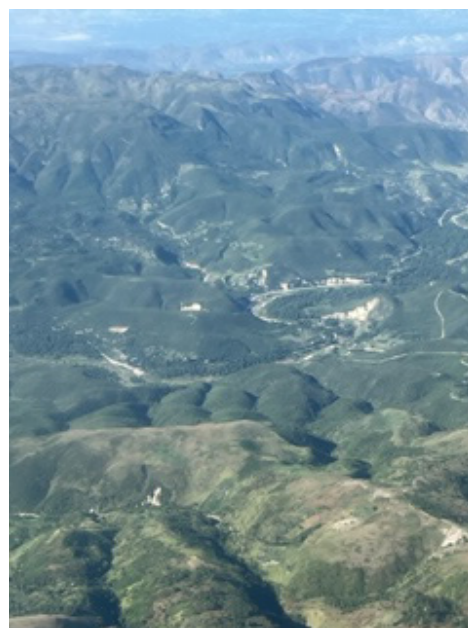


- I had time to instruct your Haitian Water Team in how to construct a water filter system and we built one at the mission house. We had a good time learning the operation of the filter using some fun problem solving techniques. Spending time together strengthens our relationships and teaches teamwork.



- I met with Wilkins, the lead Haitian person, from Missions of Hope who are our neighbors at the mission house. We discussed the many ways we will be able to help each other over the coming months as they move their operations from Port au Prince to Cap Haitian
- Pastor Colas of the Haitian Baptist Convention joined Pastors Gelin and Judelin at the mission house for dinner one evening to discuss the various ways we can help each other. The conversation turned towards our desire to start a water utility company in a Haitian village which would bring clean drinking water to each house. Pastor Colas was very receptive and excited about the idea. He suggested a couple of villages where he felt the mayor and citizens would be interested in pursuing such an idea. Pastor Colas is going to pursue the idea with the mayor of the village to determine their interest in the idea. Language is always an issue in these discussions, but showing your love and concern for the Haitian people through your actions always speaks louder than words anyway.

We did get a lot of work done, but more important we developed and built on lasting relationships which will hopefully bring more benefit to the Haitian people of NE Haiti. **It was one of my most meaningful trips to Haiti and one that will be repeated again soon. Thank you Haiti for time well spent.**



As I reflect on the trip, I am reminded of Psalm 121:8 "The Lord will watch over your coming and going, both now and forevermore." That became so personal to me as I traveled. But even more so as I saw the work that has continued and grown over the last few years. He has certainly been watching over the Haitian people as He does for you and me.

**Thank you for your love and support of the Haitian people.**

**Water is Life!!**

Tom Doane, Turning Point Missions



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*Turning Point Missions exists to bring the Good News of the Living Water of Jesus Christ to the people of Haiti and beyond. We reflect God's love through our prayers, our presence, and the provision of clean drinking water to those in need.*