



**St. Francis-Haiti  
Outreach Ministry**

**118 N. New Street  
Staunton, VA 24401**

**NEWSLETTER**

**December 2017  
Volume 11 No. 4**



Our new Facebook page (Join if you are on Facebook!) and our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher, Ketly Misadore.

**News from Pointe-a-Raquette**

Angie McFarling and Marie Thomas had a wonderful trip to visit our twin parish in November! They had a busy schedule meeting one on one with all the school, clinic and rectory staff, as well as working with the *Fann Vanyan* group—the 5 women who are in a coop agreement to encourage them in their small businesses.



**A few of the Acolytes**

St. Louis parish is vibrant and full of faithful souls! Angie and Marie joined Fr. Augustin and the new seminarian, Abbe Constant Seraphim, to start the day each morning at 5:00 am with recitation of Liturgy of the Hours followed by celebration of the mass at 5:30 am. Many of the teachers and school children joined in! The singing and joy during worship is quite contagious! Please continue to pray for the parish, that the faith of the people may continue to grow and blossom. The many challenges they face are daunting! The hope that your generosity and care provides to them is SO appreciated.

**The FannVanyan AND New Investment Opportunities**

Many thanks to Angie McFarling who has worked so hard with the 5 *Fann Vanyan* women! Angie is a tremendous mentor to them and encourages each woman to be the best possible person she is called to be. The women can see God working in their lives due to Angie’s devotion!

Please pray about these two new opportunities to invest in the community of Pointe-a-Raquette as well!



**Yves St. Fleur in front of his store**

Yves St. Fleur is a young man who presented a business plan for expanding his motorcycle/auto parts store. He is hoping to attract some investment money from outside investors so that he can buy motorcycle and auto parts in bulk to receive better prices. This added advantage will help with his price points and profit margin.

And David Leger is working on a business plan to attract outside investment in power tools for his furniture business. He makes all of his beautiful furniture by hand—and his pieces are amazing! He would be able to increase his output exponentially! If you are interested in investing in these two small businesses, please contact Marie Thomas at [stfrancishaitioutreachministry@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancishaitioutreachministry@gmail.com).

Thank you!

**David Leger with a dresser he is creating**



**Effecta Noel food stand**



## News from Our Lady of Pointe-a-Raquette School

The students are off to a great start this school year! Marie and Angie worked on an assessment of the school building and environment with the teachers and community to explore ways to improve the current school facilities. Father Augustin's great dream to build a new school building may be years in the making so the current school needs attention. St. Louis Parish is adopting a partnership VISION PLAN—*Fè Lekòl Nou An Bèl—Make Our School Beautiful!* This new initiative created short term goals for improving the school: repair the roof that creates a river through the classrooms, provide a fan for ventilation in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom, build partitions for the first grade class, buy commercial grade buckets and mops for the latrine area, build an appropriate latrine area for the kindergarten classes, build a cistern to provide the school with a much needed water source, place quality trash cans in each classroom



### **Students in the fourth grade class**

and on the playground, plant trees in the school yard as class projects, buy needed materials for the kindergarten classes, create a safe space for kindergarten naps, and start a 6<sup>th</sup> grade leadership program based on the school patrol model. If you feel called to help facilitate any part of this initiative, we are happy to hear from you! Please keep this effort in your prayers!

### The Youth Group

Angie and Marie also met with the 5 leaders of the youth group and about 10 of their 30 members! When asked about their Mission and Purpose, they responded "to help the church to get better". They want to be role models in the community and have service projects. They discussed an opportunity to clean up the town cemetery next to the church. The goats that were gifted by our Vacation Bible School two years ago have been a special incentive and the youth are interested in expanding this project. A gift of goats in honor of a loved one this Christmas would make an extra special tribute!

### News from Bob's Clinic

Angie was blessed to be able to assist in the birth of a baby boy during our visit! (Angie is an OB nurse!) What a joy to see mother and baby healthy! The clinic vision to be an oasis in the community is underway. The courtyard has been planted with trees and bushes to create a place of healing and rest.



**Dr Wilzner, DDS**

The dream of a dental clinic is also being realized! Dr. Wilzner will be coming to the clinic 4 days of each month to see patients!

We are very grateful to a generous donor who is making this possible!

The boat also continues to be a tremendous blessing to the community. While we visited, the boat was receiving its annual check-up and being sanded and painted to keep it in great running shape!

### Thank you to ALL from Father Augustin, the people of St. Louis Parish and the Haiti Outreach Ministry

Father Augustin and the people are always so appreciative of what our donors do for them. They look forward to a visit from you! Please consider traveling with us

For questions about the Ministry, please contact us at [stfranchhaitioutreachministry@gmail.com](mailto:stfranchhaitioutreachministry@gmail.com) or call Marie Thomas at 540-255-3166. Thank you always for your love and support!

**Men anpil chay pa lou. Many hands make the load lighter. Bondye beni ou. God bless you.**



**The 2 new Kindergarten teachers**



**The new baby and mom**