October ~ December 2023

The Apostle Paul spoke of looking forward, and we are doing just that. We are looking forward to what the Lord has is store for us and the ministry in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. While looking forward, we will also take a short look back at how the Lord has worked in the last three months.

As a YES answer to Benji's big prayer for 2023, my dad ended his earthly suffering on November 27th. For Thanksgiving, the week before his passing, all four children and most of his grandchildren were around Dad. Wonderful lifetime memories were made! We ask that you pray for Benji's mom Bridgitt that God would lead her into a new ministry of service.

Desroulins Independent Baptist Church is still being led by several national deacons and a couple young men who grew up in the church, graduated from Grace Baptist Bible Institute, and have been leading the youth group. The past few months has seen three salvations on church-wide soulwinning, and a general desire to have a closer walk with God.

For many years, DIBC has chosen a passage of Scripture to learn as a whole church. In 2024, we will be memorizing 1 Peter 3:1-12, and our year's theme is "Be ye all of one mind" from verse 8. Each year that we have chosen a passage and a theme, we have been tested accordingly. We are trusting the Lord to encourage the church (the members themselves) to use the spiritual gift (s) given to each one of us to further the church, grade school, and Bible Institute.

We are praising the Lord for 185 children enrolled in Desroulins Independent Baptist School. There were several church men who took the initiative to form a governing board to oversee the functioning of the school, and most of the twenty school staff are church members. With skyrocketing costs of living and a tense political over-tone, the attendance of the students is constantly fluctuating. Please help us pray that these children continue to receive not just a good social education but also a great Christian education.

Grace Baptist Bible Institute recently accepted seven new students into its five year program. These men study through all the books of the Bible, some in more detail than others, along with helps courses in leadership, preaching and family life. It is with great joy that we are preparing a graduation ceremony for 34 men on Saturday, January 27. Benji is planning a trip to Port-de-Paix to take part in the graduation and to reconnect with our ministry family.

The goal of church planting missionaries is to work themselves out of a job. The Lord perfectly orchestrated the details of the past 16 months to "force" some movement toward DIBC becoming indigenous. Too often, these words are used: "The missionary will do it." When the missionary is absent, someone (s) has to keep things moving in the right direction. Praise the Lord for godly men and ladies, and help us pray for the right spiritual leader.

Serving in Port-de-Paix & Baldwin, Benji & Kerri Dryden

September 2020

What happened? This is probably the question in the minds of each of you reading this letter. Since March, happenings have been taking place in the lives and ministry of the Drydens in Port-de-Paix, Haiti.

As each of you were under stay at home orders, we had our own degree of confinement. Our church had planned a large goodbye service for my parents, Don & Bridgitt Dryden, for their nearly fort-five years of ministering in Haiti. They would then be leaving the field on March 26th. That service never happened, and my parents stayed pretty much indoors until they were able to get a flight to the States on June 4th. Our services here were affected too. From near the end of March until beginning of August, only ten could be in attendance. Praise the Lord for social media! We were able to send out an audio recording of each service and nearly each home of our church members received it. We have been back to mostly regular main weekly services, but have yet to completely divide the Sunday schools. We did take advantage of the combined Sunday Schools to teach on soul-winning. Our soul-winning program has revived and several have trusted Christ as their personal Savior.

Remember in our last update (April) we shared with you how a canal construction required the destruction of our front wall and the bridge to cross into our yard. Well, August was the month the we were finally able to construct the bridge leading into our yard. And, in September, the new truck the Lord provided was available. Halleluiah, we drove it right into the yard as opposed to parking it somewhere else for a while!

August was also the beginning of the new school year for Grace Baptist Bible Institute. The 139 students were glad that meeting restrictions had been lifted and it was great for them to see fellow students after many months of not. Our church grade school picked back up where they had left off in March and were squeezing three months of educating children in the space of six weeks. Objective achieved!

Please pray for Kerri and Katie as they are scheduled to return to Haiti November 5th. Several hurdles have been overcome, but we are still relying on the Lord's direction and leading in many final details. Haiti is still in a state of political and economic unrest. Most of what you hear and see on the news happens in the capital city of Port-au-Prince, 150 miles away from us. Although we do not feel threatened here in Port-de-Paix, the effects of gang activities that far off trickle up here. I do not feel that the Lord is finished with us yet here in touching lost lives with the Gospel, teaching Christians the correct viewpoints in life, and training of national pastors and church leaders. Please pray as we move forward in our relationships and goals.

The Drydens

Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie

August & September 2022

August first was the day after all four siblings of Don and Bridgitt Dryden were together to celebrate their parent's 50th wedding anniversary. It was a blessing to be a part of that celebration, as well as Don & Bridgitt's home church (Grace Baptist, Baldwin, FL) honoring them for 45 years of faithful service in Haiti.

Kerri and I were able to visit her parents and we spent some time with our children while they worked at college this summer. We returned home to Haiti on August 25th and learned of the 280 children which attended the 5 Day Bible Club of Desroulins Independent Baptist Church. Seven of those children accepted Christ as their Savior! The first week of September was our annual youth conference, which Benji was privileged to preach. There was a contest for visitors, and the teens brought 262 visitors during the five night services.

A pretty sad note is that the morning after returning to Haiti we awoke to the news that one of our faithful church members had passed. She left behind three daughters all below the age of fifteen. To us that was very unexpected, but we have to remember God knows best!

Praise the Lord for the opening of the school year for Grace Baptist Bible Institute. The week before we returned, the staff of eight began with 108 students. We are hopeful to increase the student body to 144 during the week of Thanksgiving.

We appreciate each and every one of you. If the Drydens or Haiti has been on your mind lately, let us tell you why. Kerri and I made a quick five week trip to the States late July into late August. After being back home in Haiti for two (2) weeks, we began to feel the tension building nationwide. With much prayer and searching for another two weeks, we felt peace to begin preparations to return to the States for a time. The Lord allowed us to have two days of safe travels to finally arrive in Florida just after hurricane Ian went through.

Our hearts were and still are heavy for the ministry of Desroulins Independent Baptist Church. Praise the Lord for faithful men and ladies to keep the ministry headed in the right direction. We do not know when we will return home to Haiti, but will be working on and in the ministry from afar until the Lord leads us back.

Please pray for our beloved country. The "chiefs" want to be chief and keep everyone else under their thumb. The people are tired and fed up with this 'system', but the periodic "demonstrations" are getting out of hand. Several missions in our town have been targeted. Because of fuel shortage, trucks hauling food cannot travel to Port-de-Paix. This causes people to begin being hungry, irritated and eventually angry. To further aggravate the situation, banks and money transfer offices are closed, so obtaining funds is next to impossible for those who depend on family in the States.

We know God is in control and has a plan. We believe it is in God's will for us to be Stateside for a time. May God continue to direct us and use you as He accomplishes his plan for this world.

Serving those in Port-de-Paix, Benji & Kerri Dryden

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Ethan ~ Katie The DRYDEN Family in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

February – July 2022

"How can I say thanks, for the things you have done for me, Things so undeserved, yet you give to prove your love for me?" I would rather think on the blessings than on the hardships:

- Sixteen years of being a fellow missionary alongside my dad
- Serving the Lord with my wife of twenty six years
- Rearing three children on the same mission field I was raised in
- Leading lost souls to Christ
- Training national pastors and church leaders

Since Kerri and I returned to our home in February, we have stayed fairly active in direct preparation of current and future leaders in the ministry. Several professions of faith have been made, and most of them have been a direct result of Christians being trained. Eight new members have been added to our church body. The church grade and middle school has grown to twenty staff members. We look forward to serving and influencing children for Christ.

The school year for Grace Baptist Bible Institute ended June 10th with 114 students. One of our teachers is a local pastor. Because of his health, he had to take a sabbatical and one of our young men who grew up in the church will fill in the gap. Praise the Lord!

Kerri and I made a quick five week trip to the States in order to spend time with our aging parents and with our children. Our son Ethan became engaged recently and is to be married in June 2023. As Kerri and I plan and prepare to return August 25th, we ask for prayer in different areas:

- We need spiritual and social wisdom as we lead a multi-faceted ministry.
- We need godly men and ladies to continue working alongside us and learn from us.
- It would be a blessing to have an enrollment of at least 150 students in our grade school this year (we begin in September). We are in need of more class rooms because first through sixth grade currently meet in the church auditorium.
- Kerri has had health issues for most of her life. Please pray for wisdom and patience as we navigate these issues.
- The political climate seems to grow worse each day. Please pray for wisdom and safety as we minister in God's chosen field for us.

Remember, we need the prayers and the practice is good for us all.

Serving in Port-de-Paix, Benji & Kerri Dryden

DECEMBER 2021 & JANUARY 2022

Can rain be referred to as liquid snow? If so, Port-de-Paix had a white Christmas. Not only did it rain that afternoon, but Desroulins Independent Baptist Church celebrated the beginning of a new family on Christmas Day. Michard and Lovena pledged their futures to each other and joined the ranks of our church young adults becoming married adults. To have spent eighteen years watching children in the ministry grow up into leaders is very rewarding!

Even for a missionary, there are times when questions will show up in the mind, wondering what the Lord is accomplishing through him. Over the past twenty four months, twelve of the young people of Desroulins Independent Baptist Church have married and half of them have stayed to take on leadership roles in the ministry. Rearing children, whether our own in our home or other's in our church, is rewarding. We have begun to turn more responsibilities over to these 'children' and are working alongside them as they begin to apply all the teachings they have received the past eighteen years.

The Lord does have a plan and purpose for each of his children. It is our responsibility as children of God to find out his perfect will for our lives and follow it, no matter what! Very so often, the Holy Spirit will direct us one step at a time. If twenty years ago, when we became missionaries through BIMI (Baptist International Missions, Inc.), I had known what we would be doing in 2021, I probably would have reacted in a similar fashion as Moses did when God told him to go and speak with Pharoah. Witnessing the change in lives is well worth following the Holy Spirit's step by step direction.

Praise the Lord for Grace Baptist Bible Institute and the training it provides during its five year plan of study. January 22nd was our 14th graduation ceremony in which forty eight men walked to receive their well-earned diplomas. This places the total of graduates during our eighteen years at 325. Assisting in the training of church leaders is a very rewarding ministry. Please continue to pray for the spiritual and political development in Haiti. We need the prayer, and the practice is good for you.

Serving, Benji & Kerri Dryden

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2021

Return, upon return, upon returning! On October 7th, Benji returned to Desroulins Independent Baptist Church and its ministries in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. It was great to be amongst the church family for seven weeks. Returning to leading the congregation and also the staff and students of Grace Baptist Bible Institute was what the Lord had Benji to do. Kerri stayed in Baldwin, Florida, and did make a return trip to the orthopedic doctor concerning her leg surgery. All seems as it should be, so Kerri does not need to return there again. Praise the Lord!

Benji was able to return Stateside for two weeks during the Thanksgiving holidays, Ethan and Katie returned from college for Thanksgiving with their parents, and Benji and his three siblings were able to celebrate Thanksgiving with their parents. Everyone returning to be together was such a blessing!

December 7th seemed to come too early. Benji returned to Port-de-Paix to prepare Desroulins Independent Baptist Church for several big services before the end of the year. One of those services is the wedding of two faithful young people on Christmas Day. There will also be the graduation ceremony of Grace Baptist Bible Institute in late January.

We want to thank everyone who has been faithfully supporting the ministry in Haiti. Whether your support is through your pocket, your prayers or even both, we wish to send each of you a big THANK YOU!

Please continue to pray for the situation in Haiti. Kerri is remaining in the States through the Christmas Season and will have the opportunity to return to her parents' home for Christmas. Our biggest request is that the Spirit will guide us in when Kerri is to return to Haiti. The political and economic situation is at a very low point. Safety is a great factor, especially travel outside of our town of Port-de-Paix.

Serving, Benjî & Kerri Dryden

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2021

Momentarily stationary! Thank you all so very much for praying for us these last several weeks. We delivered our last two children to Pensacola Christian College the end of August and spent a week there making sure all was in order for our baby girl. There is a special daddy/daughter relationship which Benji and Katie share. I think Daddy misses Katie more so.

Haiti is still in a very confused state! Investigation into the president's murder is ongoing, and those in position of authority cannot seem to work together for the advancement of the country. Heavily armed gangs control much of the capital, Port-au-Prince. The country and its entities desperately need your prayers.

While Kerri remains in Baldwin, Florida (right next to Benji's parents) in order to fully recuperate from broken bones, Benji is returning to Port-de-Paix on October 7th. We have been away for nearly five (5) months and need to spend time with the people within the ministry of *Eglise Baptiste Independente Desroulins*. It is a joy and blessing to witness that many of the children whom we began working with eighteen (18) years ago are becoming the leaders today. The church, grade school and Bible college are functioning well in our absence.

Please pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and for wisdom on our part as we gradually turn more responsibilities of the ministry over to those whom we have trained. Our deepest gratitude to you all who pray for us and give so we may be an extension of your love for the Lord.

Serving, Benji & Kerri Dryden

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Ethan ~ Katie The DRYDEN Family in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

AUGUST 6, 2021

"God is good, all the time. And all the time, God is good." I cannot remember who originally said those words, but they are very, very true!!!

After spending the last half of May in Flora, Illinois, visiting doctors, we began reporting to several churches and having some first-time meetings. God allowed us to visit historical sights and attend activities as a family. We have been through Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, and Missouri. I have not calculated all the hundreds of miles we have traveled, but The Holy Spirit has been with us each turn of the wheels. Reconnecting with churches we have not had a chance to visit in quite a while, meeting new pastors, and visiting with family has been very uplifting. We were privileged to spend five days in Harrison, TN, at the headquarters of BIMI for enrichment week. Our teenage children enjoyed the activities and connecting with other missionary kids. We adults enjoyed encouraging teaching and sharing sessions with other missionary couples. We were thoroughly enriched! The week following, we spent with my parents and siblings and families together at a lake.

You have no doubt heard that the president of Haiti was assassinated on July 7th, plunging the already troubled nation into deeper turmoil. We knew this would affect our planned return trip mid-September, but were unsure of any specifics. While on vacation in Alabama with family, Kerri fell and broke both bones in her right leg (just above the ankle). The doctor there was able to operate four (4) days later, then two (2) days of travel to return to Flora, IL. This was part of our answer of the timing of our return. Kerri cannot be fully functional for at least three (3) months.

We will be taking our children to Pensacola Christian College at the end of August, then a two (2) week trip to Illinois to finish some things. Mid-September we will most likely move south to Baldwin, FL, near Benji's parents for final recuperation. Please pray as Benji would like to return to Haiti the first part of October and prepare the Bible Institute for the second trimester beginning the end of November. Kerri's return date is to be determined, and any travel needs the Lord's direction. Pray, pray, pray!!!

Serving, Benji & Kerri Dryden

MAY 2021

"Better late than never" is a phrase used by us all from time to time. It is very often followed by the other party responding with "Better never late." Thank you to all churches, pastors, church members, friends and family who have been waiting for an update from Port-de-Paix, Haiti.

The end of February, 2020, my parents Don & Bridgitt (whom we worked alongside since September 2003) turned over full responsibility of Desroulins Independent Baptist Church and all related ministries to us, Benji & Kerri. The reality of that fact really sunk in when he handed me his personal keys (for our shared yard and his personal house) and moved back to the States on June 4th. Kerri and Katie accompanied them during the transition and were not able to return until November 5th. During those five months, Covid restrictions were loosened and church services and ministries began to return to some degree of normalcy. Thanks to technology, church services and Bible Institute classes were shared via social media.

January of this year all Sunday School classes were meeting individually, and services began to gain attendance momentum. Just one month ago there were over 200 in a Sunday morning service! We also had graduation ceremony for <u>27</u> men of Grace Baptist Bible Institute in January. Between last October and March of this year, Benji was privileged to perform four weddings of our young people. Brother Kerby, a newlywed, is teaching in the Bible Institute after having graduated from its five year program.

Desroulins Independent Baptist Church is in the capable hands of Bro. Nocles, Bro. Salomon, Bro. Rony and Bro. Masceau, our faithful deacons. Several of our youth group leaders (Kenley, Wilfrid, Johnson, Harry) are helping to support the load of preaching while our family is on summer furlough. Ethan, our second son, is spending the summer with us. We have meetings scheduled already, but will spend needed time with doctors (eye, teeth, general) and family. Katie will begin college at Pensacola Christian College in August and Ethan is in his third year there. Micah, our oldest, lives near Benji's parents and checks in on them from time to time.

Kerri and I plan on returning to Port-de-Paix on September 16th to continue training the next generation of church leaders. Please pray with us about the changes in ministry responsibilities, and for Haiti which is in much need of political stability. We need the prayers and the practice is good for us all!

The Drydens

Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

April 2020

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

These words have been a constant companion throughout the past twenty-eight years. I remember the weekend I was shown this reference (even though I had read it before) and from then on claimed them as my life verses. I was on my way back to college from a family reunion. As my bus was backing out to head away from my father, he quickly scribbled something on his pocket notepad and held it up to the window for me to see – Prov. 3:5-6.

Often we notice God's goodness toward us and say 'I can't believe it.' We should never be surprised that the Lord is in the 'unbelievable' business. When we returned home last September, our flight was postponed two days due to political upheaval. Our in-county flight landed on our town runway, where just two days prior a mob burned two vehicles in retaliation for a citizen gunning down a young man. The Lord gave grace and we made it home, driving through a town that had high tensions. As November drew near, fuel supply was short. Buying a fifty-five gallon drum of diesel was time consuming and triple the original price. When January arrived, our battery bank and inverters (which supply our home with electricity) were having major difficulties staying charged. Also, our generator was leaking radiator fluid at an alarming rate. February brought another trial. Construction of a major drainage ravine began in our neighborhood. The church bridge and a portion of the yard wall, as well as our bridge leading into our yard and all of our yard wall were demolished to make room for this new construction. As of yet we have not been given permission to build our bridge because the crew has not completed their construction.

Many of you may notice that this letter gives a lot of what is considered negative news. Well, all this was written in order to show you how God is still good all the time. Notice how we made it safely through our home town though tensions were high. Also, the Lord never let us run completely out of diesel fuel (there were times our faith was stretched). He got me in contact with a man here who checked out our off-grid electrical supply, fixed our inverter and got us back to 24-hr electricity. A generator mechanic was able to fix its water pump and radiator. We now have a public water line coming into our yard. Because of lack of rain, the reservoir is low and there is not always water to be had. Through it all, God always delivers on time! When you are going through trials and different circumstances, just remember His timing is perfect.

The Bible Institute students are still doing their studies through long distance and that is a blessing. Our graduation was to be June 13, but we have postponed it to a future undetermined date. Please pray for guidance in all our ministry and personal decisions, and for us and our precious folks while we serve here in Port-de-Paix, Haiti.

The Drydens

Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie

Happenings in Haiti in 2019 are multiple!

The membership of DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church grew by 15 through transfer of membership and baptism in the Caribbean Ocean. Maranatha Baptist Church, where Benji spent his teenage years, expanded when Benji assisted in baptizing 4 new Christians in "Three Rivers." Grace Baptist Church of Moreau was increased when Benji baptized 6 new members in spring water. Water can be salty, flowing briskly or real cool, but each person was baptized by complete immersion.

In April, Grace Baptist Bible Institute lost a teacher of 9 years following his year long struggle with diabetes. Pastor Gelin was instrumental in beginning the annex of the Bible Institute at Pos-Metye and is missed by all. Mortimer Acnel, a graduate of that particular extension, was hired as a teacher and is a great asset to the students.

Eighteen on eight! The graduation services of GBBI (Grace Baptist Bible Institute) for the past two years were held in a different location due to weather. Praise the Lord the eighteen men who graduated on June 8th did so in our sanctuary. The rain came a week later.

DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church has been moving forward. In June and July we went through a building project of raising the floor level. In the first service on the new floor, a young man got saved!

Please pray for us. We return to Haiti September 17 with just Katie because Ethan began his college career at PCC on August 23rd. Pray also for my parents with whom we have co-labored for 16 years. After 44 years of serving in Haiti, they are slowing down and are handing over more responsibilities to nationals and to us. The country of Haiti is in a constant state of unrest due to mismanagement within the governmental system. Please pray for stability so missionaries and nationals will be able to move around freely without fear of endangering themselves.

Serving The LORD with gladness,

The Drydens

Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie

A SECOND GENERATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION Benji ~ Kerri ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN

Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

October ~ November ~ December 2018 *"I wonder have I done my best for Jesus ?"*

It is a question we all should ask ourselves from time to time. There was not added into Desroulins Independent Baptist Church daily, but there were eight added into its membership last year. Praise the Lord for the 92 souls saved through the different ministries of the church. The members are faithful to work in soul-winning visitation, Sunday school, junior church, open air meetings and 5day clubs. One five day club saw 7 adults accept Christ in addition to the fifty children professing Christ as their Savior.

Daily there was spiritual growth. Having ordained four deacons to assist the pastor, growth has been observed. Brothers and sisters in Christ have been visiting each other's homes more often. This has resulted in encouragement of the saints.

Our church theme last year came from Ephesians 6:10-20, 'Stand Fast in the Lord.' As you have probably observed in your ministries, Satan seems to attack God's people in the area(s) in which they are striving to increase their faith.

There are currently 145 students enrolled in Grace Baptist Bible Institute. We were thrilled in November to add another national pastor to the teaching staff. Our families have known each other since the 1980's, and they have such a wonderful testimony. We thank the Lord for the six national pastors/leaders who work alongside us in training current and future church leaders.

Ethan is over half-way through his senior year in high school. Please pray for us as we all prepare for his entrance into college this fall. Katie is a sophomore and becoming very adept in the kitchen. Kerri stays busy keeping us all together and going in the same direction. We are glad to be working with Benji's parents, but realizing their years here in Haiti are drawing to a close. Please pray for continued progress in Desroulins Independent Baptist Church and it's different ministries (Bible institute, children's Bible clubs, outreach).

Serving The LORD with gladness,

The Drydens

Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie

A SECOND GENERATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION Benji ~ Kerri ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN

Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

July ~ August ~ September

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

I sang this chorus four times each week during four years of college chapel. It has stuck with me and has really rung true these past months. God our heavenly Father supplies us with what we need and we are in constant gratitude. I try to inform you supporters of the blessings God supplies us with, but I was encouraged recently by a church to also send them a list of prayer requests which included needs. I was encouraged years ago by another missionary how to completely believe in **Philippians 4:19**, *But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.* We are not in the habit of asking for gifts and/or donations, and are careful how we present our prayer requests. I am realizing that most of the time God uses brothers and sisters to supply those blessings.

Praise the Lord for several 5 Day Bible Clubs that mostly filled the summer months. Through this ministry, 68 children made professions of faith as well as 7 adults. HALLELUAH! Many tracts and evangelical brochures were handed out on church-wide soul-winning visitation. On the fourth Saturday of each month, our church holds an open-air meeting. Each month is a different location with different young men leading and preaching. These services have been well attended by church members.

Praise the Lord this year of Bible Institute began with 134 students. These men are eager and willing to learn in order to train their own people to serve God. I am especially thrilled about four of our faithful young men entering their third year of study. I look forward to them taking on more responsibility in the church.

Please pray for one of our Bible Institute extension teachers. Since April, his diabetes has caused his necessary presence near a doctor in the capital city of Port-au-Prince. We are in need of his return or a replacement. Also, pray for Benji as he juggles his responsibilities with his seminary studies. You may also pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance as we begin planning our summer 2019 furlough.

We are praising the Lord for his protection during the October 6th earthquake. He protected us and our house. Others in our church lost their home, but no member lost their life. Thank you all for your prayers.

Praying with expecting Hearts,

The Drydens

Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

April - - - May - - - June, 2018

Someone once wrote, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going." I think what that person was referring to was that when times get a little hard, those who acted tough show their true colors and leave.

I am pleased to report that only a couple members took off when the going got tough. It is sad to lose some church members, but God has to trim the grape vine of our lives and ministry in order for good grapes to be produced. Over the past three months, only twice did no one show up for weekly church soulwinning. And one of those times it was raining! There have been seven (7) souls added into the family of God, and the ministries of Desroulins Independent Baptist Church are growing and gaining ground.

Mother's Day in Haiti is the fourth Sunday of May. We were truly blessed as a national pastor encouraged our families to stay strong in the Lord. On June 9th, Grace Baptist Bible Institute graduated 29 men from their five years of study. We were not able to have the graduation ceremony in our sanctuary, so the church in which Benji was saved as a child graciously allowed us the use of theirs.

With June came summer break. All the school children were excited to be out for the summer, so that gave several of our teens an opportunity to use the training they had received through CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship). These teens began a 5-Day club each week during the summer, each one a different location. They are being held in churches, yards, schools, and even in the mountains. Although many children go visit family out in the country (we are city-folk now), the junior church ministry is still going strong.

Each day I praise the Lord for the four deacons that Desroulins Independent Baptist Church ordained back in November of last year. They are such spiritual men and have the guidance of the Spirit in their thoughts and lives. Together with the LORD, we are able to see the ministries of our church expand. Please continue praying for us. We need the prayers and the practice is good for us all.

Serving with Rejoicing Hearts,

The Drydens

Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie

MAILING ADDRESS: Unit 1075-BIMI / 3170 Airmans Drive / Ft. Pierce, FL 34946 PHONE #s: 618-508-4100 / 011-509-3751-7464 / E-mail: benjidrydenfamily@yahoo.com HOME CHURCH: Calvary Baptist Church / 901 N Olive / Flora, IL 62839 / (618) 662-4996 BIMI / P.O. Box 9 / Harrison, TN 37341 / (423) 344-5050

JANUARY ~ MARCH 2018

Growth is natural, it is expected. This is true in all areas of life. The difference is the method!

As was mentioned in our last letter, we returned to Haiti and the ministry here in late November after five months in the States getting our oldest son Micah set up in Baldwin, FL. We are growing used to not having him around. Thank the Lord for internet that allows communication with him on a daily basis.

When January started, we began planning for the soon departure of Benji's parents (our co-laborers on the field) for their five month furlough. We began preparing for the growth of our responsibilities by getting more nationals involved and preparing them for new roles. DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church ordained four deacons late November, so these men were learning their new positions of serving (of course, they had already shown the spirit of service before being ordained). Bro. and Sis. Solomon had been working alongside Benji with the children and they began taking on more responsibility.

The goal of Grace Baptist Bible Institute is to train church leaders to become more effective in their ministries. Several of our key youth group leaders are in their second year of the Bible Institute. They are growing into future leaders of DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church. It is such a joy and privilege to witness this growth.

The church has had two conferences so far this year. The end of January was our Stewardship Conference and oh how we needed that preaching on administrating what God has entrusted to us. Then during Easter week, a Grace Baptist Bible Institute student preached on Christ as our example. This student is from one of our annexes and the Lord used him to encourage our hearts in a way only the Spirit can.

DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church is growing through trials. Right after Don Dryden, the senior pastor, left for furlough, it was discovered that our national associate pastor of 13 years had some discrepancies in his testimony. Praise the Lord for spiritual deacons who work with Benji in dealing with church problems biblically and in continuing the growth of the church.

Our Sunday school teachers are still faithful each Sunday and our orchestra gives the most beautiful sound in the services each week. Kerri is faithful to grow 75 musical students each week. Our young preacher boys are growing in their preaching ability.

Growth is desired and desperately needed. The Lord knows best how to grow each and every one of us. As you are praying for us and continued ministry growth here in Port-de-Paix, Haiti, we will be praying for your growth in service for the Lord.

Growing Joyfully! Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie Dryden

July ~ December 2017

What was I thinking!? I guess I had hopeful wishing, but an easy four months in Baldwin, Florida, was the fartherest away from reality as I could imagine it. We spent the first two weeks of our time in the States traveling to see family and the last two weeks of our five months getting home to Haiti by way of a trip to see Kerri's folks again. We made it home November 22, just in time to have Thanksgiving Dinner with my parents, Don and Bridgitt Dryden. We were able to have an earlier Thanksgiving Dinner with Kerri's family the Saturday before returning home.

Our main goal in staying in the States for five months was to help our oldest, Micah, get established. For well over a year before our travels, Kerri and I prayed specifically for Micah's future. We prayed about a good church for him to fit in and grow spiritually. We prayed for a job, then a vehicle and finally a place to call home. Each request was answered in God's perfect timing and we are so very greatful! HE even furnished us a temporary home away from home!

During our time in Baldwin, we were able to serve in our co-sending church, Grace Baptist. Teaching a class in the Christian school, participating in the sports programs, preaching in chapels, chauffering for different ministries, church visitation, even filling the pulpit some kept us pretty busy. I was even able to begin my masters degree studies.

We were able to visit several of our supporting churches and were blessed to see several friends during our brief travels. The LORD had provided for as a rental van and we put over ten thousand miles on it.

GOD IS GOOD, ALL OF THE TIME!

We are a month into the new year and God is still good. We look forward to continuing to serve the Lord here in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. It is taking some getting used to not having our oldest son here, but we believe he is where God would have him to be. He is involved in his local church and around family and friends who love him very much and are helping him continue to grow into United States life. Please pray for him as well as us. We need the prayer and the practice is good for everyone.

> Serving Joyfully! Benji, Kerri, Ethan L Katie Dryden

A SECOND GENERATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

July ~ August ~ September ~ October 2017

We are headed home! God has been so gracious to our family during the last four months. Before coming to the States, Kerri and I had prayed specifically for Micah and his future. We began searching for a church for Micah to get plugged into. The Lord gave us peace about Grace Baptist Church in Baldwin, FL, our co-sending church. Then just 3 weeks before we moved to Baldwin, the Lord opened a home that was vacated three weeks prior. This house belongs to the church and they allowed us to stay. While Kerri settled in home-schooling our last 2 children, Benji assisted at Grace Christian Academy. Ethan & Katie were able to participate in the school's sports programs of flag football and volleyball, while Micah got a job in road construction. Praise the Lord just days before Micah needed a vehicle, we were able to help him purchase one.

While looking for Micah a place to rent, a missionary family was preparing to move to Mongolia and begin their new life ministering there. They needed someone to rent their house and Micah did not even have furniture. God created a perfect fit and now Micah lives very comfortably there.

We were able to visit a few of our supporting churches during the past 5 months, but our main focus was getting Micah established into this United States life. Praise the Lord, God answered our requests as we had prayed for them and just in time before focusing on the next request. Our original plan was to return to Haiti on November 10th, but our return begins the 20th and we will arrive home on Wednesday morning, November 22nd. We will be home to spend Thanksgiving with my parents. We are able to have an early Thanksgiving with Kerri's parents and 2 brothers and families before we go back.

Thank you so very much to all who have prayed for us during our stay in the United States. Our prayer is that God blesses you all as much as He has been blessing us. Please continue to pray for us, especially as we return home without our oldest son, Micah. We are confident the God will use him there in Baldwin, FL.

The Drydens in HAITI Benji, Kerri, Ethan L Katie

MAILING ADDRESS: Unit 1075-BIMI / 3170 Airmans Drive / Ft. Pierce, FL 34946 PHONE #s: 618-508-4100 / 011-509-3751-7464 / E-mail: benjidrydenfamily@yahoo.com HOME CHURCH: Calvary Baptist Church / 901 N Olive / Flora, IL 62839 / (618) 662-4996 BIMI / P.O. Box 9 / Harrison, TN 37341 / (423) 344-5050

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

April ~ May ~ June 2017

Continuing to move forward for CHRIST! That is progress and our church theme for 2017. We would love to see much abundance credited to your spiritual account because of the prayer and financial support from you, our dearest fellow-laborers in the LORD!

While our associate pastor was away preaching an Easter Conference for Berean Baptist Church in another town, Pastor Charite (a national who also works with us in the Bible Institute) preached our Evangelism Conference during the same week. Benji was able to preach the Easter morning service. We were all encouraged to make progress in our witnessing.

One week before our annual Family Conference was to begin in May, there was a rainstorm that caused flooding and covered our church floor with about 3 inches of water. Because of very limited drainage, we were not able to have mid-week services that week. We had to cancel our conference and for the good portion of June rains and flooding kept us from having mid-week services. Because we could not meet together for services in our church building, this helped us all make progress in our personal reading of the Scriptures and praying to our Savior.

The month of May is family month, so most of our preaching and teaching during all services are centered on the family. It is great to see near forty families worshipping the Lord in DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church. As these families put into practice what is being taught from God's Word, more of their family members receive Christ and the church is added to. That is progress that we are working toward. Praise the Lord there were almost 2000 Gospel tracts handed out during these three months by faithful church members.

On June 10, we had the tenth graduation service of Grace Baptist Bible Institute. Our BIMI field director was present. He preached for the nine graduates and encouraged them to make progress in their ministries. Even our graduation service was held in another church building because of flooding in our church building. This makes a total of 185 graduates in the past fourteen years.

Kerri and I are excited to see the progression in the junior church ministry of DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church. One of the graduates and his wife (Bro. & Sis. Salomon) are taking care of the junior church while we are away. They are pillar members of our church and have been working with us for several years. They are a wonderful example of progress.

The orchestra ministry is progressing, but slowly. It seems some people think that if they cannot play an instrument within a few months, they just drift away and don't make any more effort.

May saw the beginning of the roof on the second story of our church building. The roof covers the concrete roof of the first floor, which will become the balcony for an ever progressing church. We are not a progressive church, we are a church that is progressing for the Lord. Much lumber, nails, sheet metal, screws and sweat went into this part of moving forward for Christ. Thank you for your prayers over the past several years. With donations from you all and givings of themselves, the members of DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church moved forward in their goal of adding new seating to their auditorium. There are some minor adjustments to be made, but the main portion of the roof was completed mid-July.

Pray for us over the next three months while we are helping our oldest son get established here in the United States. We need the prayers and the practice is great for us all!

The Drydens in FLORIDA Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

January thru March 2017

Moving forward for CHRIST!

In order for us to "press toward the mark", we must constantly be moving forward for Christ. Moving forward is progress. Progress, according to 1 Corinthians 15:58, is the theme of DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church for this year: progress in Christ.

Progress is watching young people in the church become stedfast in their Biblical beliefs. Progress is observing the children's ministries workers continuing to teach the kids day after day. Progress is noting the rise in level of ability the orchestra has shown. Progress is witnessing continued addition of members to DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church. Progress is when church members (youth and adult) ask for tracts to pass out when at school or work. Over 4,000 tracts were put into their hands for distribution and witnessing. Progress is being part of a spiritual retreat where 250 young people from different churches around the country were taught to 'awake out of sleep' during the Carnival weekend the end of February. Forty-two of our teenagers, and a few adults attended, and Benji had the privilege of teaching through 2 Thessalonians. Many decisions were made, both to receive salvation and to live stronger for Christ.

Progress is sharing in the growth of our children. Micah, our oldest, is graduating from high school this April and will soon begin life on his own. Kerri and I (the other kids, too) will accompany him to the States this summer and will remain until the first part of November to assist in his transitioning. Please pray for a great church for Micah to get involved in, a job to support himself, and a good place to hang his hat.

We remaining four will be trying to visit as many of our supporters as possible during those months away from Haiti. Please pray for ease of scheduling services. We are looking forward to being back in places we have not been able to visit during the past fourteen years.

Progress is seeing the 131 students of Grace Baptist Bible Institute develop into the spiritual leaders that Haiti needs. As a requirement, each student that enters the Bible Institute is in a position of leadership. Benji had the opportunity to preach in three different conferences for churches who have/are sending men to study with us.

Progress is seeing the near completion of a library for the Bible Institute. Please pray as we are in the final stages of providing a place for our students to study. There will be hundreds of study books in their language.

The Drydens in HAITI Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

October thru December 2016

PRAISE REPORTS:

1> Benji was privileged to lead a young man of 18 years to the Lord after he was burned in some kind of voodoo ritual.

2> 3,000 tracts have been destributed by church members (and myself) during the last three months. We encourage our folks to try their best to not just hand someone a tract, but try engaging them in some conversation about salvation while destributing THE WORD.

3>1 student of Grace Baptist Bible Institute finished his 5 years of study, and 15 new students enrolled. There are now a total of 146 men enrolled in the Bible Institute!

4> Bro. Samuel, one of our church leaders, became a teacher for AEE (the Haitian counterpart for CEF) right here in La Pointe (3 miles from our home).

5> Three (3) different church conferences that Benji would have been involved with were rained out in the month of November. The one at our church was rescheduled and able to take place the week leading up to Christmas.

6> We were able to celebrate Christmas twice this year:

- #1) December 25 with our church family here in the final AM service of our Thankful Conference (thanking God for his grace & mercy during 2016), and with our Christmas program in the afternoon.
- #2) December 26 with my wife, kids & parents sharing food, gifts, and game time.

PRAYER REOUESTS:

1> Our oldest son Micah will finish high school in the spring. Pray for God's direction and our following as we will probably be going to the States in June for a little longer furlough in order to get Micah established in a job and living on his own. This is a big deal (at least to us) because life in the United States is somewhat different than here. Please pray for:

- #1) The city/town God wants him to live in
- #2) The church for him to become active
- #3) The job that is best suited for him
- #4) The right living accomodations
- #5) The right friends Prov 27:17

2> The training and implementation of new deacons into Desroulins Independent Baptist Church

3> The training of a couple to eventually take over the Junior Church ministry

4> Plans for our church young people to attend a Spiritual Retreat the last weekend of February. Some of the roads there (a 4 hour trip) were washed out in the November rains.

5> Growth of young people in our church to be future leaders in our church.

6> Continue to train men in the Bible Institute to help the many churches that have sprung up over the last several years.

7> Kerri to have students in the orchestra who are serious about learning an instrument in order to serve the Lord with it.

The Drydens Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

MAILING ADDRESS: Unit 1075-BIMI / 3170 Airmans Drive / Ft. Pierce, FL 34946 PHONE #s: 618-508-4100 / 011-509-3751-7464 / E-mail: benjidrydenfamily@yahoo.com HOME CHURCH: Calvary Baptist Church / 901 N Olive / Flora, IL 62839 / (618) 662-4996 BIMI / P.O. Box 9 / Harrison, TN 37341 / (423) 344-5050

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

July ~ September 2016

Our family returned home to Haiti on July 16th. We had spent a month in the States seeing doctors and getting some needed time with Kerri's family. Our two-day return trip turned into a four-day trip because of weather delays, but we made it in time for Benji to preach the last service in our Bible Conference. On Monday the 18th, Benji's parents headed to the States for an unplanned extended stay (they both had double cataract surgery), to return September 29th. We missed them dearly, but God's grace was sufficient.

August 1st was the beginning of Emmanuel Baptist Camp. Seventeen of our teenagers attended during which Benji and Kerri each taught a couple sessions. Grace Baptist Bible Institute started its new year August 17th with 128 students.

Since the beginning of 2016 as I, Benji, was finishing up a church Bible study in the book of Ruth, I was praying about which direction to go. While visiting a church in the States, the Lord cemented my decision to study through the books of Samuel. It has been a great joy to begin comparing the different characters in the book of 1 Samuel to ourselves in this present day and age.

During the month of August, five souls were saved on church visitation, five other folks were baptized into the membership of Desroulins Independent Baptist Church. There were 3000 tracts distributed on church and personal visitation. We thank the Lord for a group of married men in our church called The Good Samaritans. Twice in August they went out overnight to different locations (where some of their family members lived) and did soulwinning and helped add to Bible-believing churches in the area.

September seemed to be a slower month in that only 1,700 tracts were destributed on soulwinning and we saw one young lady receive Christ after a Sunday morning service. We continued to preach and teach in Desroulins Independent Baptist Church and Grace Baptist Bible Institute.

This is Micah's senior year in high school. We are praying and searching out God's will for his life. We are are still in the seeking and praying stage, but it is possible we may be heading to the States after Bible Institute graduation mid-June and getting our son settled into a new direction in life. We desire to visit some supporting churches that we have not been to in quite some time. Please pray for the Lord's leading and for our understanding and following.

Thank you for praying for our health. Katie has recovered from her three-week fever.

The Drydens Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

MAILING ADDRESS: Unit 1075-BIMI / 3170 Airmans Drive / Ft. Pierce, FL 34946 PHONE #s: 618-508-4100 / 011-509-3751-7464 / E-mail: benjidrydenfamily@yahoo.com HOME CHURCH: Calvary Baptist Church / 901 N Olive / Flora, IL 62839 / (618) 662-4996 BIMI / P.O. Box 9 / Harrison, TN 37341 / (423) 344-5050

Thanks to all who prayed for Kerri and Benji as they taught several times during the teen camp the first week of August. Forty eight teens attended, 17 of them being from our church. I heard wonderful testimonies about Kerri's teaching to the young ladies.

The new year of Grace Baptist Bible Institute began on August 17 with 128 students, praise the Lord!

Benji's parents, Don & Bridgitt, have been in the States since two days after we returned from a month there. They both had double cataract eye surgery and are doing very well. They will be home Thursday, September 29 Lord willing.

Please keep praying for great health! Our daughter Katie has been sick since September 3. We believe she first had strep throat, but once that healed it seems something else settled into her body and she has a low grade fever most days plus she gets tired and worn out so much easier than before. We appreciate you all praying for her healing.

Keep on keeping on. Serving, Benji & Family Dryden

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

January – June 2016

Thank you for your faithfulness in praying for us. Thank you also for your faithfulness in sharing your finances with us. God has blessed us with wonderful friends and spiritual family. May God keep you all as HE has been keeping us.

We just returned from a month with family and doctors in Flora, Illinois. My wife visited several different doctors and we have some promising news from each one. Her main issues are stress and lack of sleep. We realize this will affect our work, but we have to make some decisions to change our schedules a bit to allow her to fulfill those two requirements.

Our last letter gave an overview of last year and an idea of what was going to happen during the spring months. Benji continues to administrate 125 students in Grace Baptist Bible Institute, direct the childrens program in DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church, work with Kerri in our church's music department (she teaches the orchestra), and preach once a week in regular church services.

In February, fifty one teens & adults assisted a weekend spiritual retreat, in which Benji was one of the teachers. During the weeks before and following Easter, Benji preached for two conferences at local Baptist churches. In May, Benji took part in the First Fruits conference of the church in which he spent his teen years. He also preached the last message in our yearly family conference, the afternoon of Haitian Mother's Day! On June 11, the school year of the Bible Institute culminated with 22 men graduating from five years of study.

Please pray for us as we press forward for the Lord. This last week of July, Benji will be seeing each man that has applied to the Bible Institute. There is a process, and this is step number two. Then the first week of August, Benji & Kerri will both be involved in teaching about sixty teens at a week of camp. Our children and Kerri will start back to school on August 8th, and Benji starts the Bible Institute year on the 17th. Benji's parents just left on a short furlough. They will get to see many family members, but also need to see several doctors each. The responsabilities for us are a bit extra now.

This is the senior year of school for Micah. We are praying about exactly the Lord's will and direction in his life. We are praying about heading to the States in the Spring to get him settled into a new life, job and home. We will try visiting some churches that we have not been to in quite some time. Please pray for the Lord's leading and for our understanding and following.

The Drydens in <u>HAITI</u>

MAILING ADDRESS: Unit 1075-BIMI / 3170 Airmans Drive / Ft. Pierce, FL 34946 PHONE #s: 618-508-4100 / 011-509-3751-7464 / E-mail: benjidrydenfamily@yahoo.com HOME CHURCH: Calvary Baptist Church / 901 N Olive / Flora, IL 62839 / (618) 662-4996 BIMI / P.O. Box 9 / Harrison, TN 37341 / (423) 344-5050



Dearest Supporters,

Thank you all so much for the prayers and finances over the years. At this time we are requesting your prayers on behalf of our teenagers. Benji, our national assistant pastor and our teens are attending a 'spiritual retreat' at a church that is over four hours drive away. Here are some specific requests:

1) Safety on the road to (Friday 5th) and back next Wednesday (10th).

2) A spiritual revival amongst our teenagers.

3) Benji to rightly expound the book of JUDE (in accordance with the theme taken from Rom 12:2 'and be not conformed to this world')

4) Kerri & Katie to stay safe during Benji's absence (boys are in teen group).

5) The political situation of this country to stabilize.

Thank you & God bless

The Drydens, serving in Port-de-Paix, Haiti

January 25, 2016

Good afternoon,

God is still good, all the time!!! We are doing well, except for a mosquito carried virus that has attacked each of us over the past month's time. This illness has many of the symptoms of the German

measles, but we believe it is 'Zika.' Seems it has been in Brazil for a while and is finally getting here. Because there is lots and lots of sitting water, mosquitos is a big problem.

As we hear and see reports of the north-east getting snowed in, we are watered in. We had so much rain a week ago, the ground is saturated. Rain fell all night, filling our yard with 4/6 inches of water (praise the Lord our home is 5 feet above ground level) and the church yard and sanctuary with several inches of water. So, we are home today also. There is no way for the folks to get to church (the road became a river) and no temple to worship in. Keep praying for us as we pray for you.

Serving, Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie DRYDEN

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

2015 IN REVIEW

Bondye toujou bon! In the Creole language, the name of God is literally translated "Good God." So I just wanted to help us all remember that the 'Good God is still good.' September marked twelve years of ministry in Haiti for the Benji Dryden family and 40 years of Benji first coming to Haiti as a missionary kid.

October was the twentieth anniversary of DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church. There have been some major trials at DIBC, but God is at work preparing some young men and young ladies to keep working in this ministry. Benji continues to teach weekly to the 110 students in DIBC Christian Day School. Each month, a couple of the children receive salvation. Kerri is still teaching music to church members and the orchestra is advancing. During the weekend of our family conference in May, we had a wonderful Family Fun Day with most church members participating.

June 13 was the graduation of thirty men from their five years of study in Grace Baptist Bible Institute. The remaining students returned mid-August and added several to their number.

Our family spent two of the summer months in the States with family, some of whom we had not seen in twenty years. Our children were able to attend a week of church camp where two of them got assurances of their salvation.

During the fall months, Benji assisted in the baptism of new church members in three different churches. What an awesome and wonderful privilege! Also, he was able to teach some at a retreat for national CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) workers, and preach at some other churches during special meetings.

Please pray for us as we are still working through Kerri's health issues. We need patience and guidance to figure out what is keeping her from mending. Also, pray that our US mail will be able to get to us and sent from us more often than every other month.

This past year came and went, and sometimes we think that nothing much happened. We go about our days continuing to do those tasks that we know are supposed to be done. Sometimes this missionary feels that what he has accomplished through the Lord's power is just 'same ole, same ole.' But then the Lord reminds us of his words found in First Corinthians 4:2, "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." Faithfulness to keep on keeping on is a requirement. As you all pray for us that we will stay steadfast in the work God has called us to, we will pray for you to be "stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

The Drydens

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

AUGUST – OCTOBER 2015

I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase (1 Cor. 3:6). Those were the great missionary Paul's words. After 40 years in Haiti as missionaries, my parents Don & Bridgitt Dryden have done much planting and much watering. We, Benji & Kerri, have not done as much as my parents, but praise the Lord He has used us in the past 12 years to do some of the same.

September 9 was when we celebrated 12 years as missionaries in Haiti. September 11 was the 40th anniversary of Don, Bridgitt & Benji arriving in Haiti to work in the fields of souls. Praise the Lord for the ability and privilege of sowing & reaping.

June and July were times of planting the seed of family ties in the lives of our children. We were able to spend that time with family members, some of which we had not seen in eight years. Micah, Ethan & Katie were able to spend the first week of August at church camp and the seeds of dedication to God were sown, watered and harvested. Several days alone were a great blessing for Kerri and me.

When we arrived home in Haiti on August 11, we thought we would be able to sow some seeds right in our living room. Our town of Port-de-Paix had been very dry all summer, causing the dust to wedge its way into any small opening and lay down a thick carpet. It was still great to be 'home!' Grace Baptist Bible Institute began its new year the following week with 121 students. We are doing the job of planting & watering and trusting God to give the increase.

September was another wonderful month of sowing & reaping in that Kerri started back her music classes with 70 students. She restructured the lessons, giving each student more quality learning time. Benji helped baptize three ladies into the membership of Maranatha Baptist Church (in which he spent his teenage years) and then baptizing three wonderful souls into the membership of DesRoulins Independent Baptist Church (where we currently work). We also graduated ten adolescents into the teen department. Our church grade school began it's new year with 120 students.

October brought some relief! My dad, Don, returned to Haiti and took back his responsibilities which I had been taking care of. My mother did not return as she had to stay back for some time and care for her mother-in-law (my 96-year-old grandma). As of the writing of this letter, she is still in Madison, FL, but planning on returning in a little over a month's time. Please pray for my dad as he has been battling a severe cold for over two weeks.

Much appreciation for the many prayers and support sent our way by you each month. May God richly bless you as He has been blessing us.

The Drydens

Evening,

We are in the middle of our annual youth conference. A great young preacher is preaching on being holy (separation)! I thought I would share this bit of exciting news. Yesterday, Sept.9, marked 12 years that Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie have been missionaries in Haiti. Tomorrow, Sept.11, marks 40 years since Don & Bridgitt brought their 15 month old son to Haiti for full-time missions work. We are in the midst of exciting days!!! God bless each and every one of you as HE has been blessing us. Serving in Port-de-Paix, Haiti, The Drydens



Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

OCTOBER '14 ~ FEBRUARY 15

Farmers generally plant during the spring and harvest in the fall. Because our summers are severely hot and dry, our gardening begins in September and ends in May. The LORD does not wait till spring or fall to plant nor harvest. As the GOD of the universe, HE does not need to follow the pattern of nature. HE is in control of all!

Not only did we plant some garden seeds last fall, but we also added several new students to our Bible Institute class roster. We are praying for and preparing these men to influence and make an impact on their own people as they graduate and continue in the ministry GOD has called them to. When we accept a student into our five year program, he must be a member in good standing of his local church and very active in some capacity. GOD needs laborers to go into HIS harvest. As of now, there are 132 men enrolled and attending weekly classes in four different locales. Please pray for these men (a mixture of pastors, assistant pastors, deacons, church leaders, and Sunday school teachers) that they will apply themselves and work to bring in a great harvest.

November 1st & 2nd are observed in Haiti as 'Day of the Dead.' Over the years ministering here, we have come to see the deplorable custom of going into debt so food can be put on the graves of dead ancestors (for them to eat) while the children are sitting at home starving (that's not just hungry either)! The seeds of fear that have been sown by voodooism have a strong-hold on this country. That is why we have an annual Hope Conference, to plant the seed of the Gospel in their hearts.

A new family was started on December 18th when a graduate of the Bible Institute exchanged vows with a Christian young lady. The seed of love that had been growing bloomed and we pray it will continue to grow. GOD is gracious in allowing us to see some fruit of our labor.

Christmas was wonderful this year! My next oldest sister Lydia and her family were able to come spend the holidays with us here in Haiti. We had an enjoyable time making memories that we won't soon forget. The seeds of discipline and godliness that our parents planted in us has blossomed into that same teaching being planted into our children. What an honor to serve the KING!

Thank you for your prayers on behalf of the LORD'S ministry here in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. Keep on praying as we keep on sowing and reaping.

Benjanin E. Dryken

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie DRYDEN Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

MID-JUNE ~ SEPTEMBER 2014

Time seems to have a way of sprouting wings. The Lord has watched over us during these few quick months. We also appreciate all the prayers, gifts, birthday & anniversary cards sent on our behalf.

Now that the ebola scare is prominent in the news, it may be easier to forget that just a few months ago the chikungunya passed through Haiti. It affected Micah and Ethan for a few days, but being children they bounced back pretty well. Benji had a fever for several days and a rash. The affects on his leg and feet muscles caused his summer days to be only half useful. Each afternoon Benji had to put his feet up to relieve some pain. Praise the Lord that has not lasted. Life seems back to normal.

Benji's parents were on furlough during the summer, so more responsability fell to Benji. Praise the Lord for a national assistant pastor with whom to work. You may remember us sharing with you how two years ago some accusations were leveled at Pastor Saint-Fleur. Well, those men have repented and asked forgiveness for following along with others in the world who started those accusations. We appreciate your prayers for him and his family. He is back to regular preaching and doing the work of a pastor. Benji was privileged to partake in four conferences during these last quick months. We saw decisions made for salvation as well as for more faithfulness to Christ.

Benji and Don began the new Bible Institute school year with 139 students. They look forward to accepting about twenty new students for the new trimester that begins in December.

Kerri picked up music classes again when the summer ended. Let us explain some about the music ministry of Kerri & Benji Dryden. We direct a church orchestra of nineteen that plays every Sunday evening service. Three days a week the different groups of instruments have individual lessons, then one large class on Saturday morning in preparation for Sunday. Kerri has a class of young children each Tuesday evening to teach them the recorder. There is also a group of pre-teens just starting on learning an instrument on Saturday mornings. By November, Kerri will be adding three more classes to accomodate the dozen teens who have expressed an interest in serving the Lord with an instrument. Please pray for us, especially Kerri. She also home-schools our children (10th, 8th, 6th grades).

Benjanin E. Dryka

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

GOOD NEWS! ~ JUNE 16, 2014

It was good news in December 2013 to receive an invitation to participate in a spiritual youth retreat. Fifteen teenagers, myself, and another church traveled four hours by public transportation to hear some Good News teaching from the books of Timothy. I was able to teach the sessions on the second Epistle. Remaining faithful is a GREAT thing!

After returning from the youth retreat, it was good to preach the marriage sermon for one of our Bible Institute students. A church wedding is a rarety here, even amongst church members. Also good was the getting of two pigs to raise for meat. It is wonderful to live under grace found in the Good News instead of living under the law.

Good news in the month of March was in the form of a new generator. Our previous one was wearing out. It had been designed to run only for emergencies, not as a primary/only means of electricity. God sent us good news in the form of a quieter, stronger and more efficient generator!

Beginning mid-May, we were involved in four different conferences. The Good News was preached in each conference and decisions were made. There were no Great Awakenings, but hearts and minds were opened and affected. During our Family Conference, we introduced 'Family Activity Day' to our members. Because of previous rains, our activities were inside the church building. Games varied from soccer goal kicks, ring toss, name that tune, ball toss, family scavenger hunt, and Biblical charades. There were sandwiches, chips and drinks for all participants. God blessed with 200 attendees being content and hoping to duplicate the day next year. This was new to our folks, so it was a treat for our families (us and my parents) to serve these precious saints who don't have much but give themselves to God for service. It was good news on a great day!

Good news will be the day Kerrri and Katie return from their three week trip to the States for their yearly doctor checkup. Thank you for your prayers as they received some good reports from the doctor.

Good News was the reason for a group of saints from Independent Baptist Church to ride in a truck for almost two hours, join up with saints from another Baptist church in order to go soulwinning in their area. Good News was what they carried. Not only were they able to encourage one another, they encouraged the lost with the same Good News.

More good news was the fact that twenty nine men completed their five years of required study to graduate from Grace Baptist Bible Institute. Of the graduates, half are pastors and assistant pastors, while the remaining are leaders in their respective churches. Please pray for these men as they continue preaching the Good News.

As representatives of the Lord and your church here in the country of Haiti, we strive to "commit to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." As the institute graduates share the GOOD NEWS they have been studying for five years, as we continue to share the GOOD NEWS with the Haitian people, we encourage each one reading this letter to share the GOOD NEWS with at least one person today. It is a Good thing!

Benjarin E. Dryken

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

Year 2013 ~ In Review

Blessings abound in the service of the Lord! We would like to share some blessings from God this past year, some expectations as well as needs of a growing ministry.

Kerri has been able to decrease her thyroid supplement intake and improved her overall health. We were able to figure out some of Katie's allergies and with a strict diet has brought back a normal color and a growth spurt! It seems we boys are just too stubborn to get sick, so far.

Our first conference of the year was preached by a national on the subject of stewardship. God used Pastor Wefley to move hearts to repentance. A group of fourteen folks came from Michigan for one week during our Easter Evangelism Conference. Each day they were divided up and sent out with different groups of our church for tract distribution. The evening services were a great blessing to the nationals as well as the visiting '*blans*' (foreigners/whites). Family Conference in May was when a teenage son of a church member began getting chased by the Holy Spirit. He finally accepted Christ in October!

Both the Young People's Conference and Hope Conference were preached by national pastors who received my parents and me (as a baby) into the country back in 1975. These men are a great asset to the spiritual progress of Haiti.

God allowed us to have a wonderful time with family and friends during the summer months. With only ten weeks between Bible Institute trimesters, it seems our time in the States was short. It was a much needed difference of pace. Before heading out on furlough, we were privileged to see 27 men graduate from the five year program of Grace Baptist Bible Institute.

You will remember in June 2012, our national assistant pastor was accused of several infractions. None of the accusations have been verified, in fact some of them have been proven false. Yet, a remnant has no desire to submit to his authority. We are praying that this year sees the truth revealed in an extraordinary way and the unrepentant ask forgiveness. Our church needs a better 'togetherness' spirit.

The end of February, Benji will be participating in a five day Youth Retreat during carnival holiday. Pray God would do a work in Benji and the 500 plus teenagers present.

There is a plan underway for a Family Fun Day for our church members as part of our Family Conference in May. We have been praying and teaching toward a strong 'family church.' Much emphasis in this country is put on those in the family who have something helping those members (extended or close) who have nothing. When it comes to growing toward each other and in their service together for God, that is something foreign. Please pray that the Spirit would direct us in the planning of this activity.

Kerri and Katie will be making a three week trip Stateside for their annual doctor's visit the end of May. Please pray as we plan this trip. Lord willing, twenty nine men will complete their five year Bible institute program and graduate on June 14 (what a birthday present for Benji).

Please pray for our church orchestra as they begin playing in more services (they just started learning to play two years ago). Our desire is to show that true worship is with music that glorifies God, not the kind that satisfies the flesh.

Benjanin E. Dryken

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

July ~ September, 2013

The time has come for a third prayer letter this year. I can't believe September has already passed and we are in the last quarter of 2013. It has been said that time flies when you are having fun. I can say it is a joy to work for the Lord in Port-de-Paix, Haiti.

July was the month of reunions. On a Friday, my parents, siblings and our families began a week together in a lakeside cabin. The very next day we spent with my paternal grandmother and most of her eighty six offspring, their spouses and other relatives. Early the next morning, Sunday, found us on a two-hour drive to spend the day with Mom's two sisters and their children and grandchildren (twenty seven total people) and attending my parent's home church. The remainder of the week was spent getting reacquainted after over two years of not seeing my sister and her family, and doing some much enjoyed fishing with my dad.

We were also privileged to spend a week reuniting with a group of wonderful folks whom had spent a week with us in Haiti in March of this year. It was a great opportunity to preach at a Reformers Unanimous meeting and to take part in a Rescue Mission service. I was given the chance to preach a few times while in the States, but I must admit I am more comfortable preaching in Creole.

In August, we enjoyed receiving blessings and the ability to continue for the Lord. The Lord worked it out for our boys to enjoy a second week of teen camp, this time it was with our co-sending church, Grace Baptist Church of Baldwin, Florida. They had attended camp earlier with our home church back in Illinois. As we were making final preparations to return to our joyful work, Kerri and I met a Haitian couple and were able to encourage them. No matter where one may find a Haitian, a perpetual smile seems to be on their face. Please pray for Bro. and Sister James as they serve the Lord in Jacksonville, FL.

Praise the Lord for the ability to leave Florida and make it home (to Port-de-Paix) in one day! The new school year for Grace Baptist Bible Institute started within one week of arriving home. It is a blessing to have 154 students enrolled this year. Our desire to win souls and train nationals in the work of the Lord is seeing fruit. While we were away from 'home,' two couples and several teens kept the junior church ministry moving forward. Summer months are always a time when children visit family that live a distance away. This causes junior church attendance to lower a bit.

September was a month of remembering. Our first missions conference on deputation was in the month of September twelve years ago. Another great memory is September 9, 2003. That was the date we moved to Haiti to begin this phase of our ministry for the Lord. It was also this month, six years ago, in which Benji began bi-monthly preaching/teaching on the family unit. Praise the Lord the families in Desroulins Independent Baptist Church are drawing closer together and closer to the Lord.

Kerri's students in our church orchestra did some remembering as they returned to two weekly music lessons. Kerri really likes music and enjoys being able to share her musical knowledge with other servants of the Lord. Our children remembered what it was like to attend school when Kerri started back home schooling after summer break.

Thank you for allowing us to represent you in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. God's blessing upon you all!

Benjanin E. Dryken

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

April ~ June, 2013

"Marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."

When April arrived, much focus was on fooling others. In the Bible institute, we had recently finished our course on First Corinthians. I am glad God chose the foolishness of preaching in my life to lead me to salvation, to call me to the mission field and to deliver messages and lessons to the Haitians.

June eight was a marvellous day for us and also for twenty seven men of Grace Baptist Bible Institute. After attending classes one night a week for five years, these men were rewarded with a well earned diploma. During the summer, we are in the process of meeting and accepting new students to fill the vacancies. Please pry for the 27 graduates as they go forth preaching and teaching in their respective churches. Pray for God's marvellous work in their lives and ministries.

Independent Baptist Church of Desroulins is a marvellous place to work! Our family conference began on Mother's Day (fourth Sunday of May). Our speaker was a 1998 gradate of the Bible Institute. Just two months previous, he had lost his wife to cancer, but was still willing to preach the Word to families. His messages from the marvellous Words of Christ were a great encouragement!

Several years ago, we began having a contest where church members would bring family members. Each night a different family would take home a nightly prize. The weekly prize (totaling quantity members each night) was won with a total of 437 family members throughout the week. That last night of family conference, over 400 attended. Marvellous!

On June 11, we headed to the States on a nine week furlough. It took four days, but Kerri's parents were very glad to see the grandkids after two years. Although this furlough was for family, doctor and friends, we were privileged to attend teen camp and a few teen activities. We will be spending the second half of our furlough with my family in Florida

We appreciate your prayers as we travel a little bit more, then as we return to the ministry on August 15th. Classes for Grace Baptist Bible Institute will begin again August 21, while Kerri's homeschooling and church orchestra classes will pick back up in September.

Thank you all for your faithful. May God richly bless you and yours.

Benjanin E. Dryken

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

A SECOND GENERATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie

Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

January ~ March, 2013

It's April 22 and all is well! God is still on the throne! Thank you to all who have been praying for us. God has been at work during this first quarter of 2013.

The fourth week of January was our annual stewardship conference. Even though the national pastor who preached the conference dealt with service, God used his messages to work other changes in several hearts. A few people who had been at odds with each other got things right between them.

Naturally, the Devil hates anything positive, so some discontent followed these decisions. God is still working and has allowed folks to see the true nature of certain wolves in sheep's clothing. We are referring to some who, back in June last year, brought false accusations against our national assistant pastor. Continue to pray since the battle against Satan is never over.

During Mardi Gras weekend, 17 teens and four adults from our church attended an annual youth retreat at a sister church. God worked through some wonderful national pastors to encourage our young people.

Bible Institute changed trimesters the end of February. Several students completed their five years of training, and we accepted more. There are now a total of 150 students enrolled in Grace Baptist Bible Institute, praise the Lord. God is using us to help train current and future spiritual leaders in Haiti.

My parents returned from an eight month furlough in February. Soon after, a young man visited from the States seeking the Lord's direction concerning the mission field. Praise the Lord he was able to get a few projects completed during his stay.

Our Easter Conference was a real treat! A group of fourteen folks came from Michigan for a week. Each afternoon, they would go out in groups to pass out tracts and invitations to the conference. Men in our church would take each group in different directions. Morning activities included a soccer game with the young men of our church, visiting a 'country' church, painting school benches, taking a stroll through the local iron market and town sights, and getting caught in a huge downpour of rain. I had the wonderful privilege of translating a few preaching services for our visitors as well as preaching one service after they left. During the conference, a young lady received Christ as well as two of our young men dedicated their lives to serve God more faithfully.

God is continuing to work during weekly church soul winning. Each week, there is a steady core of folks going out. Periodically, one or two more become soul winning regulars. Of the 18 souls saved these last three months, the majority of them have been on church visitation.

God is still working at keeping us healthy. There are the usual colds, bumps and bruises, but nothing serious. Praise the Lord! Also, I was able to finish Katie's bedroom with help from my dad.

Please pray for us as we are preparing for two big events in the month of June. Our first event is that 27 students will be graduating from Grace Baptist Bible Institute on June 8. Then three days later, we will begin our two month furlough. Our goal is to visit family, doctors and dentists. Please pray as we work to coordinate all these visits.

May God continue to work in you as He has been working in us. Until we write again,

Benjamin E. Dryken

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

A SECOND GENERATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

Faithful Friends,

Blessings to you during the beginning of this new year. Our prayer is that God does many mighty and wonderful works in you and through you, as well as in us and through us.

Praise the Lord for the opportunity to work for Him by preaching in church services and conferences, teaching in Grace Baptist Bible Institute as well as teen Sunday school and church seminars, directing the church choir, and being a husband to Kerri as well as a father to Micah, Ethan, and Katie.

During the past three months, 30 of our teenagers had a combined teen meeting with a sister church. I participated several nights in an evangelism conference at Grace Baptist Church of *Gran Lakou*. One of the graduates of Grace Baptist Bible Institute preached our annual Hope Conference at Independent Baptist Church.

2012 in Review

This past year brought several unexpected happenings. It started with a couple from California who gave up their 2011 Christmas vacation from teaching music to spend it with us in a music seminar. Of the 27 church members who attended, 22 are continuing their musical learning through bi-weekly lessons with Kerri. We had been thinking about beginning music training sometime in the future, but God's timing is always perfect. The orchestra performs during each of our bi-monthly conferences. In a country where worldly music has filtered into most churches, it is a blessing to train God's servants to glorify God in their music.

We were also able to pour the concrete roof on the other portion of our home. We used the Thanksgiving holidays for Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie to move into the new school room. At the writing of this letter, we are continuing to partition off the kid's bedrooms. It is a slow process, but everyone pitches in.

Bible Institute graduation was a success this year. With only three to graduate, preparation was not such an issue. Nevertheless, we honored these three for their faithfulness in attending classes one night each week for five years. Pray for these men as they continue serving as leaders in their respective churches. Praise God for 144 students currently enrolled in Grace Baptist Bible Institute!

One week before my parents were to leave on furlough, a situation arose concerning our assistant pastor. I was to work alongside him and let him be the 'pastor' while the pastor, my dad, was on furlough. Pastor Saint Fleur took some time off from pulpit responsibilities. This was not in our 'plans', but God's timing is always right! Our Lord has been very gracious over the past six months in guiding me as I have assumed a larger role than anticipated. There is still opposition as some church members would like to see the demotion of our assistant pastor. He has returned to preaching and teaching, but please do not stop praying for him and us.

The Lord used three former students of Grace Baptist Bible Institute to encourage our church during it's last two conferences. Praise the Lord for Godly men! Praise the Lord to for the 35 children in the children's music class that Kerri began in November. Kerri's talents and desire in the music field is of great benefit and blessing.

Please pray as we have already gotten well into this new year. We are praying for the Lord to show Himself in a GREAT and MIGHTY way this year.

Bonjanin E. Drykan

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Micah ~ Ethan ~ Katie Serving in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

Gracious Partners,

October 18, 2012

God is on his throne and all is right! Remember in Romans 8 when the Spirit instructed Paul to inform us Christians that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose." Even when times seem difficult, remember that 'all things' means all situations. We may not know His will right now, we may not know it until Heaven! When serving the Lord in spirit and in truth, all things work for His good. What's good for Him is good for us.

The summer months may be over, but the summer heat is not! Schools have reopened and many children and young people are returning to classes. Each year there seems more kids who are not able to return to school for financial reasons. We thank the Lord for the ability to homeschool our children. Kerri does such a wonderful job teaching fourth, sixth & eighth grades.

Grace Baptist Bible Institute is going strong. We just finished first trimester midterms and all is well. Desroulins Independent Baptist Church is still going strong. Two weeks after the false accusations were brought against our national assistant pastor, a good national pastor (who is great friends with our assistant pastor) came and preached our Bible Conference. God used Pastor Aline to encourage the church, encourage our national pastor, and put the accusers in their place. Then in September, Pastor Idelas & Pastor Eronel preached our youth conference. These Godly preachers planted the corn, watered, harvested, shucked it, creamed it, cooked it and we all ate some wonderful spiritual food that week! Psalm 34:8!

During the months of July & August, some of our church men organized two soccer championships within our church body. It was great fun and possibly a way to grow into a ministry in the coming years. Micah and Ethan both participated and we all enjoyed the recreation. The greatest aspect for me was that the church men took the initiative and responsibility to organize and direct these activities. We are to teach 'all the counsel of God.' This includes lessons in leadership. Please pray as we not only preach to grow the church physically, but God would enable us to help Christians grow spiritually through teaching.

Kerri stays busy teaching music to the church orchestra. God-honoring music, as opposed to flesh-fulfilling, is a rarity and necessity in this country. The goal is to one day have the orchestra play for services. Right now they work on certain pieces and musical principles in order to play a couple songs during the Sunday morning services of our bi-monthly conferences. Please pray as we seek the Lord's direction on beginning a children's orchestra.

Desroulins Independent Baptist Church is a mother. Last year we started Grace Baptist Church of Moreau, and this past spring Grace Baptist Church of Gran Lakou had it's inception. Please pray that these works, pastored by two young married men of our church, will continue to grow physically as well as spiritually. Both works have a small attendance, but all things work together for good if they are done in accordance to His will. Both Bro. Luckcene and Bro. Denis have recently had baby boys. Please pray for the health and growth of these families.

It is our privilege and honor to serve the Lord here in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. We are happy to represent each one of you for the Lord's glory. Please pray as we continue preaching, teaching and constructing lives as well as structures (partitioning our children's bedrooms). Remember Romans 8:28! Its promises still stand true today!

Bonjanin E. Drykan

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan & Katie



Dearest Partners,

Benji, Kerri, Micah, Ethan and Katie Dryden are all doing well after hurricane Isaac went through the southern of Haiti. We minister in the northwest, so we only got some wind a a light rain all day Saturday. Thanks for all the prayers that were sent before the Throne for us. If Saturday had been during the week, Kerri and the children (who home schools) would have got a 'hurricane day.' We were able to play some games and make pizza. That was a treat!

The new school year started for Grace Baptist Bible Institute with 143 students spread out in four different locations. We are blessed to serve the Lord in Port-de-Paix, Haiti, and to represent each of you here. My parents, Don & Bridgitt Dryden, are in the States on furlough. Please continue to pray for Desroulins Independent Baptist Church as I work alongside our national assistant pastor in leading the church. God continues to show Himself in a mighty way each and every day. God bless you all.

Serving in Haiti, Benji & Family Dryden