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GLEANINGS FOR THE HUNGRY
A MINISTRY OF YOUTH WITH A MISSION

January 2016

DONOR BANQUET

It all started with a person's vision, which in turn became a plan carried out by many hands. Everyone brought their best efforts, doing their essential part to make this night a success. It was the 2015 annual Donor Banquet, a time to thank those who give so generously. And many agree that this was one of our best banquets so far.

Pictures cannot do justice to the final product. At first glance you could see beautifully assembled centerpieces of fresh flowers adorning every table under the soft lights. The theme of the evening was "God's Masterpiece", a reminder that we're all an essential piece to the puzzle, a part of the big picture put together by God. A simple, yet elegant arrangement was placed at every seat, a cloth napkin boasting a wooden puzzle piece with the French word "merci".

The donors were treated to a marvelous meal, while some of *Gleanings'* staff and volunteers alike gave their time to keep cups full and serve desserts. Other staff had the opportunity to mingle and relax with our guests.

We aren't privileged to personally witness all the fruit of our ministry, as the food is given to the needy nations. This is especially true for our donors; but for those who attended the banquet, things came full circle. Our speaker was none other than Miss Lynn, founder of *Mission of Grace* in Haiti, and one of a thousand recipients of the goods that pass through *Gleanings For The Hungry*. Her heart to come as our guest speaker was not to make an impression, but solely to express her gratitude. Everyone present was given the opportunity to hear the story of her hesitant return to Haiti to answer God's call and how her first deed of kindness grew into *Mission of Grace*. We are grateful for the chance we had to share this fruit with the donors who make our ministry a reality.

HELLO, SARRINA!

We are excited to announce Sarrina Stimpson has joined *Gleanings'* staff! Sarrina completed her Discipleship Training School at *Gleanings* in the spring of 2014. A year later, she dedicated three months to the summer staff program in 2015. Sarrina joined full time staff the following November, presently making her the fifth staff member from the 2014 DTS class. She is currently working in housekeeping and also helps prepare the daily meals.



MISSION OF GRACE

meeting the needs of Haitians through love and compassion

Mission of Grace was founded in 2009 by Linotte Joseph (affectionately called Miss Lynn), along with her husband, Jean. Miss Lynn reluctantly returned to Haiti when God called her to love the people of Carriès. A mudslide, which took multiple homes and lives, became the catalyst of her ministry. In response to the disaster, she welcomed more than a hundred mothers and children into her yard, feeding them bowls of spaghetti.

Although our first connection with Miss Lynn occurred during a trip to Haiti in 2010, **Gleanings'** partnership with **Mission of Grace** didn't begin until February 2011. It started with the plan to build an orphanage, drawn on a napkin. Ever since, we have provided both food and supplies, including donated solar panels.

By the guidance of our Father, **Mission of Grace** has flourished. Assistance has come from all directions. The ministry now consists of Grace Community School, Children of Grace Orphanage, Grace Community Medical Clinic, Grace Community Church, a men's transition center, Home of Grace Elderly Home, and a young girls' home.

Mission of Grace strives to model the character of Jesus in every aspect. The passion and commitment ingrained in the ministry has taken them further in the past six years than first imagined. **Gleanings For The Hungry** is greatly honored to partner with **Mission of Grace**, a ministry truly showing the love of Christ to the people of Haiti. Continue to pray for provision and breakthrough for our friends in Haiti.

*Jesus looked at them and said,
"With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."
~Matthew 19:26~*



This is the story of a girl named Midlyn. She never knew her truant Father; her mother died when Midlyn was a young girl. After her mom died, she was given over to her aunt. Instead of taking proper care of Midlyn, she used her as a slave, making Midlyn work for room and food, beating and abusing her. **Mission of Grace** found Midlyn as she was hauling water. They noticed she did not hear very well and were told it may be due to being repeatedly hit in the head. Midlyn was brought into the new girls' home at **Mission of Grace** and she has made a complete change. She laughs and plays, enjoying a life free of abuse, being loved instead. A smile is always adorning her face.

Midlyn is one of the many young girls God has placed in the hands of **Mission of Grace**, to be raised as a leader for Haiti, full of compassion. Pray for Midlyn's relationship with the Father, who will never leave her nor forsake her.

"We here at Mission of Grace would like to say thank you for all your support and prayers. The mission is growing and thriving under God's grace and provision... Ms. Lynn so enjoyed visiting Gleanings in November. She was so blessed with all the support and prayers. Together we can make a difference, one life at a time, here in Haiti." - Kim O'Dwyer

director's corner

Dear Gleanings' Friend,

I want to thank you for your interest in our ministry, and for reading this newsletter. It is our desire that we work together with the whole body of Christ, expanding God's kingdom here on earth. We love to be part of this work and truly appreciate each one of you who is connected with us here, feeding the hungry. It makes me happy to hear, from our volunteers, that Gleanings is like their second home because they feel the bond of working with people who share the same overflowing love of Jesus. May we work even closer in 2016, with more love and unity, for Jesus. I pray this will be the best year ever for you as you grow closer to our Lord and Savior.

Have a blessed 2016.

Fritz Meier