

A partnership of help & hope



Bob Hood with friends learning
Créole. (April 2010)

What we have been doing...

During the nine years St. James Church in Cazenovia has been twinned with St. Ives Parish in the rural village of Thibeau, Haiti (30 minutes from Cap Haitian), it has:

- Raised tens of thousands of dollars to provide 1,000 families with safe drinking water.
- Helped to build a church, rectory & school.
- Annually funded schooling, uniforms & daily meals for 100 students.
- Contributed food & supplies to an orphanage.

Bob Hood, a retired commercial developer and parishioner of St. James, has traveled more than 30 times to Haiti, four times since the January 2010 earthquake. In addition to building a community center & expanding the rectory to house visitors, supporting farming efforts, a carpenter shop, a community center and higher education scholarships, Bob works closely with the IF Foundation <www.if-foundation.org/> that supports small business & agriculture by making micro-loans for start-up costs such as raising animals (pigs, goats, rabbits, cows, fish & turkeys); farming of bananas, rice & coffee beans; soap & candle-making, enabling Haitians to develop a sustainable economy.

Other recent contributors

Bob has encouraged and taken people from all over Syracuse, NY, and other communities to Haiti to use their skills, talents and funds to make a difference in the lives of our Haitian brothers and sisters in Thibeau. This encouragement and partnership have included:

- Ruth Colvin of Literacy Volunteers who started a literacy program.
http://www.syracuse.com/specialreports/index.ssf/2007/08/ruth_colvin.html
- Dave Eldridge, a Cazenovia dentist, who is developing a viable dental program.
- Georgette Schmidt, a French teacher, & Karen Dross, a math teacher, traveled to help with teacher training.
- Park Central Presbyterian Church of Syracuse, NY has funded teacher training, a laptop computer and supplies for St. Joseph's School.
- Two volunteers from Long Island are starting an eye glass program for the clinic.
- Eastern Hills Bible Church of Manlius, NY has made a generous donation to expand the safe water program.
- The Syracuse Century Club auction raised a generous monetary gift for building a library in Thibeau.



Haiti

Special Interest Articles:

* History of a nine-year partnership

* New initiatives

* Read how you can join this vision to continue to make dreams come true!



New Initiatives...



- In July 2010 The Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery, with the backing of Pebble Hill and Park Central Presbyterian Churches and other individuals, formed a Mission and Ministry Team to encourage their local churches to help with new projects in Thibeau. In August the Cazenovia, NY Presbyterian Church added its endorsement.
- In early January 2011 Bob Hood will facilitate a limited group of volunteers to travel to Haiti to become acquainted with the Haitian people and their needs & to establish contacts for on-going service relationships.



Georgette & Karen with teachers at St. Joseph's School (April 2010)



Dr. David Eldridge treating a patient in Dubré, Haiti (April 2010)

How you can help... *specific skills, talents and funds needed*

- **St. Joseph's School in Haiti Needs:** teacher training, scholarships, playground equipment, soccer & phys ed uniforms, computers, an LC Projector, musical instruments, art & school supplies & solar panels
Email: gschmidt@twcny.rr.com or donate by check to: Park Central Presbyterian Church, 504 E. Fayette St; Syracuse, NY & mark "Partnership for Haiti"; See *Haiti Committee* www.parkcentralchurch.org
- **Dental & Health Clinic Needs:** volunteer dentist & doctor-5 day service trip, volunteer dental hygienist & nurse-5 day service trip; medicines & supplies, volunteer for the eye glass program to collect & distribute used eye glasses; a volunteer to coordinate the scheduling of visits by service providers. Email: bobhoodcaz@aol.com or donate to St. James Catholic Church; 6 Green St.; Cazenovia, NY 13035; See *Haiti Committee* www.stjamescaz.com/
- **Library Needs:** Furniture, computers, books, magazine & newspaper subscriptions, solar panels, books in Creole & French, training of library personnel, yearly operational expenses. To volunteer* for any library needs contact: Bob Hood at bobhoodcaz@aol.com or 315-447-5726 & to donate any funds, please send a check to: IF Foundation www.if-foundation.org/ or send to Father James Byrum, Director of If Foundation; 26-15 Ulmer St; College Point, NY 11354 and attach a note.**
- **Small Business & Job Training Needs:** farming, raising animals, building skills, including masonry, carpentry, plumbing, electrical & reforestation

*If you wish to be a volunteer, please contact Bob Hood at 315-447-5726 or email him or Georgette Schmidt.

**If you wish to make a monetary donation, please attach a note to the check designating which project you wish to help fund.

"We want to become acquainted with the Haitian people and their needs & to establish on-going service relationships." Bob Hood

To read more check:

www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2010/01/cazenovia_haiti_committee_seek.html &

www.syracuse.com/specialreports/index.ssf/2007/.../bob_hood.html - &

blog.syracuse.com/.../the_poststandard_achievement_a_1.html

"Haiti is our neighbor, 90 minutes from Florida and 3 ½ hours from NYC. The needs are great and the opportunities to serve are diversified and rewarding!"

