

Haiti Needs You

Some are called to go.
Some are called to support those who go.
Both are needed.
One cannot exist without the other.

If you are interested in going on a short-term mission trip to Haiti, you can contact Herb Nordmeyer (HerbNordmeyer@gmail.com) or Candice Dominguez (cdominguez@shlutheran.org) to learn about Shepherd of the Hills trips.



If you would like to arrange to take a group to Haiti, then Herb and Candice can answer some of the basic questions, but it would be appropriate to contact Helen Roenfeldt (missionhaiti99@aol.com).

Mission:Haiti makes the arrangements to take people into Haiti on short-term mission trips and has the ability to get the people into places where they do the most good. If you are interested in Community Health Outreach, VBS, working with orphans, or construction, Helen can make the arrangements, arranging for vehicles, drivers, translators, and security, as well as food and lodging.

Following are a few ways to provide support:

Send a Missionary

Going to Haiti is expensive. First, there is a round-trip plane fare. From San Antonio, TX, it usually costs between \$700 and \$900. Then there are expenses in Haiti, such as security, vehicles, drivers, translators, food, and lodging. On a Mission:Haiti trip, that cost is usually about \$1,400 for a one-week trip. That brings the trip cost up to \$2,100 to \$2,300 per person. Each individual is responsible for raising the funds.

Shepherd of the Hills sends a mission team to Haiti every year. Usually that team has between 6 and 18 members. Some are members of SHLC, and some are friends of SHLC.

In addition to the annual SHLC mission trips, Herb Nordmeyer makes a number of trips per year with the Homes for Haiti project. In 2015 he made 6 trips to Haiti. Herb usually joins other teams which are going to Haiti, to keep expenses as low as possible.

Scott Conover, from Florida, is in training to be Herb's replacement. He made 3 trips in 2015. When the Boys' Dorm is replaced, one of them will need to be there during the entire 6-week construction period.

You can help an individual by:

- Providing them funds directly,
- Depositing money for their expenses at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church (tax exempt) – designate it as “Haiti Mission Travel – name of

person,” or

- Depositing money for their expenses at Mission:Haiti (tax exempt) – designate it as “Haiti Mission Travel – name of person.”

If you want to help, but you want the Team Leader and the SHLC Mission Board to decide where the money should be applied, then it should be deposited at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church – Haiti Mission Travel Fund.

Clothes

When requests are made for clothes, people tend to clean out their closets and storerooms. Haiti is a tropical island, and the temperature seldom gets down to 65 degrees F, but people have donated parkas and snow boots. People have donated clothes that are worn-out rags and not wearable. This delivers the message that Haitians are not important. Normally, when adult clothes are donated, they have to be sorted, and over 50% of them have to be disposed of because they are not suitable. As a result, Mission:Haiti does not collect and ship clothes for adults to Haiti.

Clothes for children and infants are needed. Pillowcase dresses are popular for the girls, and shorts and shirts are popular for the boys. If you would like patterns, let Mission:Haiti know (missionhaiti99@aol.com).

Faith Lutheran Orphanage

Not everyone living in an orphanage is an orphan. Some have one or both parents alive, but the parents cannot earn enough to feed the child. Placing a child in an orphanage until the parents can feed that child is a much better option than the alternative, making dirt cookies for the child so the child has something in his/her stomach to stop the crying.

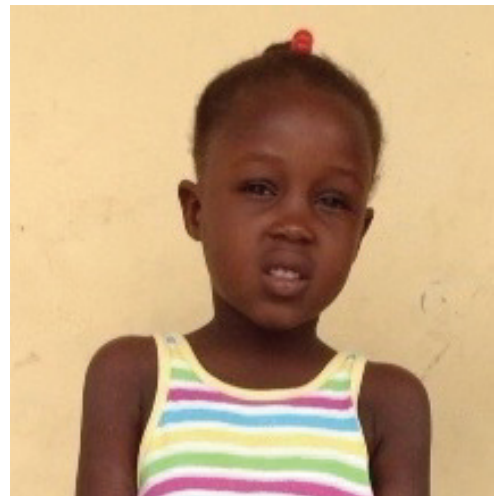
The number of children who can be cared for at an orphanage is limited by:

- The available space,
- The available staff, and
- The funds to feed the children.

Adopt an Orphan

First off, each orphan needs someone to pray for them every day.

It costs \$2.50 to feed one orphan for one day, or \$75.00 per month. Then there is the cost of schooling and personal items. SHLC usually raises money to purchase a backpack loaded with school supplies for each of the orphans.



Boys' Dorm

The Boys' Dorm was about 12 years old, and due to chlorides in the concrete and a

leaky roof, the steel rebar corroded and expanded. This caused the concrete in the roof, columns, and beams to fail. This is a common problem in many parts of Haiti. Herb Nordmeyer was able to break some of that rebar with his hands. The building was condemned and removed. Herb has been tasked with developing a concept to prevent the replacement building from failing.



The dorm will be built with confined masonry construction, using basalt rebar which does not deteriorate when exposed to chlorides and with a secure metal roof. Currently Herb is developing basalt trusses to go in the beams and columns. He will be teaching quality concrete block production in July, so the block used will not deteriorate. The estimated cost of the replacement will be about \$40,000 US.

In addition, Herb or Scott Conover (in training to replace Herb) needs to be present during the construction to ensure that the building will be built according to plans.

Girls' Dorm

In 2013, Shepherd of the Hills furnished funds to build the first Girls' Dorm. It is built using the confined masonry construction technique and has a flat roof. This building will fail in the same manner the Boys' Dorm failed if water gets into the concrete roof. A plan needs to be developed and implemented to maintain a waterproof membrane over the concrete roof.

We are building a second dorm. It will be a 30-foot dome which is disaster-resistant and uses basalt reinforcing rather than steel reinforcing, so it will not be attacked by chlorides. The slab has been poured, and we anticipate erecting the dome in September, 2016. We have a \$10,000 grant to help cover the estimated \$15,000 cost of the dorm.

Kitchen

The kitchen is being built to replace some small and very hot rooms where food is now being prepared. The walls are up, except that some corner columns need to be poured. The top beams need to be poured. Then a secure metal roof will be installed.

Other Needs at the Orphanage

Plumbing needs to be expanded.

Latrines need to be replaced.

Garden plots need to be developed.

Colminy

Colminy is a village about 30 minutes from Route 1. When Helen asked a few years ago what they would like, they said, "A church, an irrigation system so we can grow crops in the dry season, and a medical clinic." Helen responded, "We do not have any

money, but we will pray about it.” They had a makeshift church, but the local Voodoo temple was much larger than their small church. A donor heard about their need and donated the money to build a church. They pooled their funds and rented a pump and pipe to get their dry-season garden going. All of the community participated. Before they had to turn the rental equipment back in, a donor was found to donate a pump and pipe. They are now selling excess vegetables to bring money into the community. Dr. Nancy held a medical clinic in Colminy in 2015. There are thousands of villages in Haiti which need a helping hand to become self-sufficient.

VBS

When VBS is held, the children keep coming. Often 200 to 250 children will attend a one-day VBS. The VBS can be held in a different location on each of 5 days during a one-week short mission trip. This adds up to lots of supplies and snacks.



Community Health Outreach

We often refer to them as medical clinics, but they are more than that. We reach out and teach sanitation as well. Classes are held for expectant mothers. Classes are held for new mothers. Often clothes and toys are given to the youngsters. At one, 75 Barbie dolls had been donated. At others, matchbox cars have been donated.

There is a need for vitamins, worm medication, etc., etc. Customs inspects these items for outdated items, unsealed containers, and any other inconsistencies. They will not only confiscate the outdated items, but the person trying to import them can be seriously fined. We finally had to change our procedures so we only take medicines, vitamins, etc., that we purchase. We do need donations so we can purchase medicines and vitamins.



Recently we started providing a Clean Delivery Kit and a Layette to pregnant ladies and new moms as part of our Community Health Outreach program.

If anyone would like to assemble the Clean Delivery Kits and Layettes, Helen has instructions. Email her at missionhaiti99@aol.com

Micro Loans

Often with a little training and supervision, a person can start a small business with as little as \$50.00 US. With a well-designed micro loan program, most of the loans are repaid, and the money is available for others.

Homes for Haiti

In 2013, Pastor Benoit challenged Herb Nordmeyer to come up with technology to build disaster-resistant homes for the poorest of the poor in Haiti for a material cost of \$1,000 US. While he has not reached that goal, he has gotten the material cost down to \$3,000 US; and with capital equipment, labor, food for the crew, import duties, inflation, etc., the total cost is below \$8,000. That is well below the cost of any other disaster-resistant home being built in Haiti.

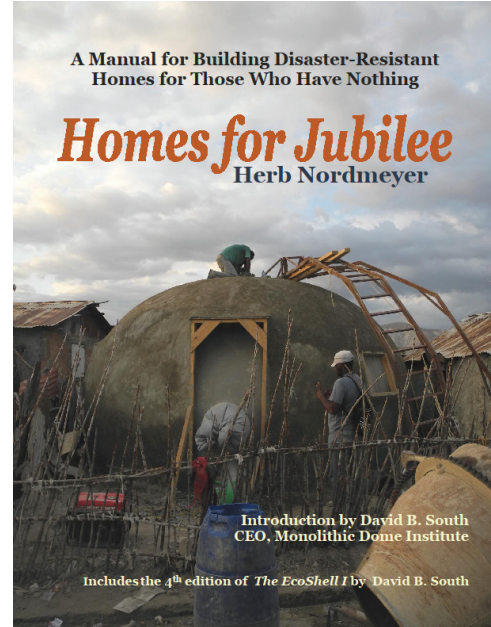
Capital expenditures involve Airforms for domes, generators, drills, and a replacement motor for a concrete mixer, as well as hand tools.

While we can buy Portland cement in Haiti, some of the building supplies must be imported. Basalt rebar and rope are not available in Haiti, so they have to be purchased in the US and imported.

The same is true of hydrated lime, Tapcon anchors, and wind turbines.

Homes for Jubilee was published June 15, 2016. By mid-July we anticipate publishing ***Kay pou Jubilee***, which is the Haitian Creole version.

Domes of the World is looking at what we are doing in Haiti and developing a project to fund demonstration villages around the world, BUT the donations are needed to continue building homes in Haiti.



The Donating Process

Mission:Haiti

Funds for each of these Haiti projects go through Mission:Haiti. It is a 501(c)(3) organization, so donations made to it are tax deductible.

Address Helen Roenfeldt, Executive Director
Mission:Haiti
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Email address missionhaiti99@aol.com

Phone Number 954-868-8218

Website <http://missionhaiti99.org/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/mission-haiti-130998163598976/>

Donations Through PayPal at <http://missionhaiti99.org/>
Mail a check to the above address.
Be sure to specify where you want the donation to be applied.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Funds going into Haiti from SHLC are sent through Mission:Haiti so there is a single point of contact when working on these projects, and Mission:Haiti has experience in working with the interesting problems which can develop when working with that culture. Other funds are spent locally to purchase supplies and equipment which are taken to Haiti or shipped to Haiti.

SHLC is a 501(c)(3) organization, so donations made to it are tax deductible.

Address	Shirley Yoakum, Treasurer Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 6914 Wurzbach Road San Antonio, TX 78240-3897
Email address	syoakum@shlutheran.org
Phone Number	210-614-3742
Website	http://shepherdlutheran.com/
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/shlutheran/?fref=ts
Donations	Drop a donation into the offering plate with a note attached as to where it should go. Mail a check to Shirley Yoakum with a note attached as to where it should go. There is an online option for donating. If interested, talk to one of the staff.

Your Own Church or Organization

You can set up a Haiti fund in your own church or organization and coordinate with us as to where you want the funds to be applied.