Lutheran World Relief Village Jacmel, Haiti

By: Herb Nordmeyer April 16, 2018

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018, as we were getting ready to leave from a day of teaching, Chaudry told me that we needed to wait for Sydney. (Sydney is the wife of the Reverend Doctor Marky Kessa, Mayor of Jacmel). I had no idea what was going on, so I asked, and he said, "Didn't Lophane tell you what he arranged?" No, Lophane did not.

Sydney arrived and drove us to the Lutheran World Relief Village in Jacmel. Lophane had arranged for Sydney to take us to see the homes LWR had built after the earthquake. Some were very nice small homes. Some were temporary structures which were still being used. We were introduced to the families and invited into the homes. Although I was exhausted, it was worthwhile.



Many of the children came up to hug me. One toddler hung onto my hand as we walked around.

We went to an orphanage. It was well-built. The children were well-dressed and appeared to be well-fed.

Information is provided below each of the following photos.



A damaged building from which the components are being salvaged.



One of the streets in the Lutheran World Relief Village in Jacmel. The home to the left illustrates the simple yet solid structure of many of the buildings.



Most of the homes in the Lutheran World Relief Village in Jacmel have numerous trees and shrubs planted around them for beauty and for cooling shade.



We stopped to admire a painting one of the tenants is working on. The painting had an almost photographic look.



Two more of the homes in the village.



One of my students lives in this home. He asked me to look at some cracks. I did and then asked if he could explain them based on what he had learned so far in class. He did an excellent job.



I then gave him some suggestions on how to prevent the problems from growing.



While many of the homes were single-family homes, some were row homes. There were also temporary wood homes which were erected after the earthquake which were still in use, since sufficient homes were not available to supply the needs of the area.



We entered the orphanage at the Lutheran World Relief Village and observed that foundation trenches were being dug for a new building. Some of the soil has a high clay content so the foundation needs to be deep.



The main entrance to the orphanage at the Lutheran World Relief Village. To the right is the edge of the foundation trenches that are being dug for an additional building.



Gravel and stone stockpiled near the new building site.



More gravel and stone stockpiled near the new building. The pile on the right is high in limestone and has considerable fines. If it is used as base material, it will serve well. If it is used in concrete, mortar, or stucco, it will result in an inferior product. The pile on the left consists of soil, sand, and large gravel. Due to the particle size distribution, it will make a poor concrete unless extra Portland cement is added to the mix. It would function well as a base material.



Inside the boys' dormitory of the Lutheran World Relief Village Orphanage.



Inside the girls' dormitory of the Lutheran World Relief Village Orphanage in Jacmel.