



# Friends Of Haiti — Organization —

March 2019  
Newsletter

## March Newsletter

On January 9<sup>th</sup>, 15 members of the Wabash FOHO team met in Washington, Indiana and rode the Bedford 1st Free Methodist church's bus to Nashville, Tennessee. We had room reservations for the night. Our Flight left the Nashville airport at 6am on the 10<sup>th</sup>. We flew to Miami and then to Port Au Prince.

We were met at the airport by Jean Gardy, Arnel and Russ Cole. They took our team and luggage to Vivy Michel where we unloaded, had a quick lunch, then went

to look at the jobsite. Our task this trip was to rebuild the Siloe Church. Since the earthquake in 2010, they have been making due with a plywood and 2x4 structure with a tin roof. When we arrived at the location, we were happy to find that the people of the church had taken down the old church and 3 school rooms that were attached to it. This saved us a couple days of demolition work. We spent the rest of the day discussing our plans and working on tools and equipment lists.

On Friday Jan 11<sup>th</sup>, our team split up and gathered tools and equipment. We were all back at the jobsite around noon. For the next couple of days we did some repairs to the concrete floor, laid out the column locations, installed columns and welded trusses together. We also laid out a foundation and floor for a 4<sup>th</sup> classroom. During the construction work on the Siloe Church and School, we had 20 Haitian men on the payroll. Half of those were men from the Siloe Church. The rest were men we have worked with many times. Jean Wiler was our main contact and interpreter for all this work. We had four or five of the ladies from the church fixing



lunch for all the workers at the jobsite. We set the first truss on Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> and the last one on Wed the 16<sup>th</sup>. All the purlins were on by Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup>. The school structure was up and the roof was on half of the sanctuary on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>. The rest of the roof was finished on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup>.

On Monday the 21<sup>st</sup>, we built a front porch over the entrance and started building 20 church benches for them. On Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> we installed the fascia trim and started building 20 more benches for Pastor Jean Leon's Church at Delma 33. We spent Wednesday finishing up and cleaning up tools and putting stuff away. We were able to leave enough money to employ the Haitians another week to finish the block work. We also paid a local Haitian to build and install doors and the security bars for the windows of both the church and the 4 school classrooms. The team was made up of 12 men and 3 women. Four of the men were under 40 years old. It was so nice to have some young men along with us. The 3 women were kept very busy doing our meals, laundry and all the other support we needed to keep this job moving forward. Russ Cole had done all the prefab work on the trusses and columns before we arrived. That made the assembly of the trusses and columns on the jobsite go very fast and smooth. Thanks Russ!

During the whole trip we felt God's direction and protection. We were blessed everyday with good weather, safety, good Haitian workers. We always pray that God assembles the team he needs to accomplish what he would have us do when we get there. This time it was very evident he was the one in control. Praise God for his direction and protection.

Dan Dennis



### ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9am - 2pm at the Spring Arbor Free Methodist Church. If you would like more information, contact [haitiprogress@gmail.com](mailto:haitiprogress@gmail.com) or call Karyn Beemer at (517) 812-0378.

Contact FOHO at: [haitiprogress@gmail.com](mailto:haitiprogress@gmail.com), [friendsofhaitimissions.org](http://friendsofhaitimissions.org), or PO Box 266 Spring Arbor, MI 49283.

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### Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

FOHO Family Annual Dues ~ \$50     Single Annual Dues ~ \$25     \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation

Please send your tax deductible gift to FOHO, PO Box 266, Spring Arbor, 49283.