

BHMM

BAPTIST HAITI MISSION



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A FAITHFUL LEGACY

A letter from the founders of Baptist Haiti Mission: Wallace & Eleanor Turnbull.

In 1946, as a young man, I was called to the mission field of Haiti. When I responded to that call it was not only because I wanted to tell the Haitian people about Jesus. It was not because I wanted to plant churches, build schools, start self-sufficiency programs, or create a medical mission. My response was simply an act of obedience to the call of my Master.

In 1948 God brought to me, in Haiti, not just a beautiful wife and mother for our three sons but a life-long companion who understood well and practices Matthew 6:33 “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Together, Eleanor and I raised our family in Haiti, a family that grew beyond our three sons and eventually our grandchildren to include countless thousands of Haitian believers and their families. We were blessed, not by our efforts, but because of 2 Corinthians 10:5. “We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

Through the years, God brought many friends to visit the work and Haitian churches. They were drawn to the openness and spiritual commitment of the Haitian believers even as they felt challenged by the physical needs. These friends became faithful obedient supporters and recruited others to do the same. The mission work has been supported, not by a denomination or larger organizations but by individuals who see the needs and how their contributions are used. If you are reading this, it is likely that you are one of these friends. I cannot properly thank you. That can only be done by our Lord Himself.

As the work grew, it became organized as the Baptist Haiti Mission (BHM) with a board of directors in the USA and a national association of Haitian pastors and leaders (ASEBACH). When the founding board members aged and could no longer remain active, God raised up younger men of vision and courage to recruit workers and to oversee the ministries of BHM. Join me in praying for them and in supporting their efforts as they, along with the

Haitian leaders, serve the people of Haiti and grow the Church of Jesus Christ in that nation.

After nearly sixty years in Haiti, when the time came for Eleanor and I to make room for new leadership on the field, it was not humanly easy or a choice we would have desired. It could be accomplished only as an act of obedience. God continues to bless us as we work with Haitian students studying at Liberty University who will return as trained leaders in many areas. Now, in our ninetieth year, it is a joy to see, first hand, how the Haitian churches and leaders are growing in maturity.

Thank you for your letters and phone calls. They are a great encouragement to us. Thank you, also, for your continued faithful support of the work in Haiti. It is very needed and does make a real difference, now and for eternity. May the Lord bless you richly as you remain obedient to Him.

In His faithful love,

Wallace and Eleanor Turnbull

A HOPEFUL FUTURE

A letter from the president of the BHM Board of Directors: David Melber.

Matthew 24 reminds us of a great truth: the Gospel of the Kingdom will be proclaimed in all the earth. That is to say, God’s rule and reign will, one day, be realized in every corner of the globe. This is an amazing truth in the life of the believer, but this truth comes on the heels of the reality that His Kingdom will come through the endurance of the faithful persevering through an increasingly hostile, secular environment.

We do not have to look far for any of this to be perceived. We see obvious signs of the end of the age, but also, we are encouraged by the testimony of those who endure. The good news is that our Lord has prepared all of us to be ready for these days – ready to proclaim the Gospel to the whole world as a testimony to all nations. This term “proclaim” is why we, as believers, are on this earth. We are to proclaim the Gospel.

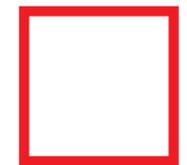
Recently, Wallace, Eleanor, Wally, Betty and Sandy Turnbull spent several days with us in Louisville, Kentucky. Wallace and Eleanor recounted their story of going to Haiti as young adults. They saw the reality that the people of Haiti had no Bible translation in Creole. They also became quickly aware that even if the Haitians did have a Creole Bible, a lack of available education would prevent them from being able to read it. It was primarily their obedience to the Lord that drove the Turnbells to Haiti nearly 70 years ago. Their central purpose was to make known the glory of God through the sharing of the Gospel message.

Hearing the stories of the decades of work, and seeing what Baptist Haiti Mission has become, is staggering in light of its beginning. By God’s grace, it is through that same Gospel resolve, and commitment to glorifying God, that BHM will continue to see the church strengthened in Haiti through the proclamation of the Gospel.

Over the last year, some transitions have occurred within BHM. These changes have led to new board members and a move for the stateside office towards a new location in Louisville. The changes in the United States will allow a new chapter in the life of BHM which will build on the Gospel heritage of the mission of which you have been a key partner.

Jesus prayed in John 17 that we, as believers, would be one. This prayer was vital. The end result of unity was that the world would know that the Father sent the Son. As we begin to chart this new chapter in BHM, our prayer is that you will continue this journey with us as we seek to reach the nation of Haiti. God has worked mightily through numerous missionaries and countless supporters, and through them, He has enabled the mission to accomplish much for His glory in Haiti.

We celebrate today, and exist today, because of what God has done through the lives of thousands of His children who have followed the Lord in obedience. We have a God-sized task before us to continue what was started nearly 70 years ago. As with my conversion, and yours, this can only be done by God’s power. God chooses to invite us to be involved in His work. The invitation for you to join us in what God is doing continues today as we seek to proclaim the Gospel in Haiti. Thank you for your continued support of what God is doing!



1946 John R. Turnbull arrives in Haiti with his son Wallace



1947 First BHM associated church established in Fermathe



1948 First BHM associated school established

FIELD NOTES



A word from the Field Director.



When I consider the legacy of Baptist Haiti Mission that began nearly 70 years ago, as the third director of BHM I am honored to be a part of it. I look around at the development that has taken place over the years and reflect upon the faithful ministry of the Turnbuls, and I am amazed at the magnitude of their impact of which God has used continuously since they stepped foot upon these shores in 1946. In their obedience, God established them as living testimonies to His Gospel. They allowed their entire lives to be poured out in service for others. Their witness was made strong in their often simple gestures of help such as providing medical aid to the sick, teaching the illiterate to read and write, and helping farmers to establish better agriculture. Their lives are a sterling example of what Oswald Chamber's writes in his book *My Utmost For His Highest*. He says "Paul focused his life on Jesus Christ's idea of a New Testament saint; that is, not one who merely proclaims the Gospel but one who becomes broken bread and poured-out wine in the hands of Jesus Christ for the sake of others."

Today, we have a group of missionaries carrying on this venerable ministry. They are sacrificing themselves alongside their Haitian brothers and sisters and living out the Gospel with the single objective to see it spread throughout Haiti. We are working hand-in-hand to develop the church and to see it come to maturity with a relentless passion for Christ. Throughout BHM's history God's movement has been unmistakable. We have witnessed small groups of new believers blossom into churches, and in time we have seen those

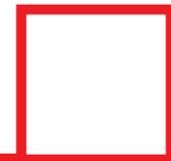
churches planting other churches. We have seen children learn to read and write in grade school and then those same kids progressing into high school and on to university and who are now able to attend the Masters program at BHM. We have seen basic first aid efforts burst into clinic development and the establishment of a hospital that is now serving over 10,000 people a year. We have seen primitive trades mature into professional work projects and a Christ centered vocational program that helps church members find employment. We have literally seen tens of thousands of people commit to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through His movement within these ministries. This work continues on, just in this past year there were over 3,000 people that professed Christ through the various churches and ministries.

As we continue to see changes in the country of Haiti, as well as in the structure of BHM, the core of the mission still remains steadfast: developing churches with a passion for Christ. We continue on in the goals that we were founded upon nearly 70 years ago; to see the lives of all people transformed by the work of Jesus Christ. This is why we strive to aid in the development of the church, which is the body of Christ. For it is only through Christ that any man can be saved. This is the good news that we proclaim. Pray for the Haitian and American Christians that are pouring out their lives in obedience to Jesus and in service to others. Our goal, as Paul stated in Romans 1, is to unashamedly propagate the Gospel because it is the only power to save us.

- Chris Lieb

"The core of the mission still remains steadfast: developing churches with a passion for Christ..."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DAVID MELDER, PRESIDENT

David Melber is married to his wife Tera of 24 years and they have six children ranging in age from 9-21 years old. They are members of Buck Run Baptist Church in Kentucky. David currently serves as the President & CEO of Crossings Ministries based in Louisville KY.



TIM JARM, VICE PRESIDENT

Tim Jarm serves as the President and CEO of Alliant Management Services, the third largest hospital management company in the US. His family of six attend Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, KY.



PAUL CHITWOOD, SECRETARY & TREASURER

Paul Chitwood currently serves as Executive Director-Treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. A former pastor and current adjunct professor, Paul holds Christian teaching and education in high esteem. He and his wife, Michelle, have three children - Daniel, Anna, and Cai.



RONALD A. PIERRE

Ronald A. Pierre is passionate about church development and networking people for Gospel opportunities. He currently serves on several Christian mission boards. Ron and his wife Barbara have six children and 23 grandchildren.



Adam Greenway

Adam W. Greenway is Dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Ministry at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Adam has also served as President of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He and his wife, Carla, have two children: a son, Adam Wade II, and a daughter, Caroline Elizabeth (due in early April).



1950 Fermathe Hospital is establishd

1952 Wallace Turnbull becomes director of BHM

1961 2,000 children are enrolled in BHM schools

1963 Self Help Crafts program begins

1966 BHM Zoo is established

1975 Mountain Maid building completed

1980 MM Reforestation efforts plant over 400,000 trees



MOUNTAIN MAID

Mountain Maid exists to strengthen the church of Haiti by proclaiming the gospel, making disciples and partnering with local church members to produce products that provide a sustainable income.

For over 40 years Mountain Maid has been dedicated to empowering individuals through sustainable income projects and employment.

PLEASE VISIT US
AT OUR WEBSITE
www.mountainmaid.org

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

“I had the privilege of being at his house the day that he accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior...”

On my first trip to Haiti in 2007, I made a visit to the Soissons School with Elsa Peterson, a missionary who served as the director of the child sponsorship program at the Baptist Haiti Mission. On that visit, she was going to the home of a 4 year old boy named Djimmy Dorceus. The purpose of the visit was to ask his parents to sign a document granting permission for him to participate in the child sponsorship program

On that visit, I met his family in their little two room home on the side of a steep mountain in Soissons. I discovered that both parents were illiterate – the mother was only able to go to school through second grade and the father was not able to attend school at all because back in those days, there was not a school in his remote mountain community. But both parents were determined to find a way for all of their children to attend school somehow.

On the way back from that visit, I told Elsa that I wanted to sponsor Djimmy. She said “I didn’t take you there to convince you to sponsor him.” I knew that, but after meeting this beautiful family and hearing their story, I just HAD to help them!

That was nearly eight years ago and I am still sponsoring Djimmy. He is now in fifth grade and wants to be an engineer. I also had the privilege of being at his house the day that he accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior! Since then, all of his sisters and both parents have also taken that step of faith! On one visit, Mrs. Dorceus showed me her wedding ring. I didn’t even realize they weren’t married! They told us that after they each made a profession of faith, the Lord impressed upon them their need to be obedient in ALL areas of their life, so they decided that they HAD to get married!



Today, all of the Dorceus children are in school, thanks to child sponsorship. The older two daughters are in secondary school, making straight A’s and they have told me that they both want to go into nursing. The younger daughter is also sponsored, makes straight A’s and wants to be the Chief of Police. I am currently in Haiti for the 31st time and will make another visit to “my family” this week. They have told me that they consider me to be an important member of their family!

Sponsoring a child through the Baptist Haiti Mission is easy and inexpensive, but it has life changing implications! Education is the best way to help bring Haiti out of extreme poverty.

Through BHM’s sponsorship program and its schools, children and their families receive some of life’s necessities but more importantly, they are introduced to Jesus!

- Bob Brumley

Join us in freeing the children of Haiti from the bonds of poverty by means of a Christian education and the power of the Gospel.

Visit us at our website
WWW.BHM.ORG/SPONSORSHIP



1981 First BHM associated high school is established

1997 Over 8 million trees planted since 1980

2003 Rob Baker becomes Director of BHM

2007 BHM partners with a U.S. university to offer Masters level degree

2010 7.0 Earthquake devastates Haiti

2014 Chris Lieb becomes Interim Director of BHM

Proverbs 3:5-6 →