

### JUNE 2018 Inside this issue:

JESUS WEPT	1
VISITORS & PROJECTS	2
VISITORS & PROJECTS	3
A CURRENT NEED	4
SEWING CLASS	5
FACES OF RVS:	6
Mme. Lergo	
ΤΗΑΝΚ ΥΟυ	7

#### Please join us in praying...

- For God's love to be clearly displayed in all we do and say
- For wisdom, direction, and strength to fulfill our responsibilities
- For every teacher, student, and staff member and the role they fill at RVS

"Jesus wept." It's the shortest verse in the Bible, but I find it oddly comforting. It reminds me that Jesus is touched by our pain. When he wept at Lazarus' tomb, he wasn't mourning Lazarus—he knew that Lazarus was in paradise and that he would be raised from the dead. He also knew that Mary and Martha's sorrow would turn to joy, but I believe he felt the pain that they were experiencing at the death of their brother and he grieved with them.

Sometimes we go through hard things and we're tempted to blame God, but this short little verse reminds us that we are not alone in our pain. I believe that Jesus shares our pain and walks with us through our pain until all our sorrows are turned to joy.

Here at Redeemed Vocational School we're thankful for God's continued blessings...so much more than we deserve. It isn't always easy, but by the grace of God we keep moving.

We've been able to start a new class this year. We're happy to finally be offering a driving class! Here in Haiti, learning to drive is not nearly as easy as it is in the United States. Most people use public transportation and don't have access to a vehicle to practice driving. With this skill we hope to open a new avenue of income for our students and enable them to get jobs driving.

Thank you to each of you who support us in prayer. Please pray that God would give wisdom as we grow and mature; and that our ministry would be effective for the kingdom of God.

Wismith & Rebecca Joseph



## VISITORS & PROJECTS

Page 2

USTIN PRIEST was here for two weeks in March to work in the mechanic shop. His experience and expertise were very much appreciated and we're still hoping that he'll be back soon! His brother and a friend also helped with some landscaping around the shop for a few days.



**J** ONATHAN SOMMERS has poured a lot of time and energy into building the mechanic shop, and he always brings a few friends to help too. This winter Jonny, **BRIAN HERSHBERGER**, and **JESSE OVERHOLT** came to pour a cement pad in front of the

shop. It's been much used and much appreciated since they left!



## VISITORS & PROJECTS



Back in January I had the opportunity to spend some time in Haiti doing a few projects around the school. I went with my two good friends, Brian Hershberger and Jesse Overholt. We had a great time working together and working with the people around us.

While there, we poured a concrete pad in front of the shop, which in the future will



make diagnosing vehicles much easier. When customers pull up to the shop to have their vehicle checked out, it's always difficult when both shop bays have projects already going in them. Having this apron on the front of the shop gives the mechanic more flexibility to crawl around under the vehicle and to check things out without losing tools and parts. It's just all around a better design for the shop.



With the help of our shop staff and a few of our students, we were able to put down the concrete in good time and we enjoyed doing it. Brian and Jesse both pour concrete for a living here in the US, and although it's slightly different in Haiti mixing it by hand, they did an excellent job using their skills to put down a quality pad for the shop.



We also did other small projects like putting gutters on the front of the shop, replacing tile in the shop apartment, and a lot of grading around the shop with SLM's skid steer, which they so graciously loaned us for the two weeks we were there.

Some of the best parts of the trip were playing dominoes with the school staff. Lemann, Cliff, Ricardo, Jackson, and Jude were great



sports and taught us all the rules to Haitian Dominoes! We also enjoyed going to Jacmel, a town on the coast, for a little bit of relaxation on the beach. Jacmel has some of the yummiest grilled fish you'll ever have, at least in my opinion. <sup>(C)</sup> While there, we were able to visit our good friends, the Pete Garber family, who are currently living and working in Jacmel. It's always good to catch up with them and see the latest projects their children have going. <sup>(C)</sup> All in all, the trip to Haiti was a success. It's always great to spend time with Wismith and Rebecca, and to be a part of their life for several weeks. Special thanks to Wismith and Rebecca for their hospitality, and also the school staff for always making us feel welcome. Also, a big thank you to Rebecca's sister, Judith, who worked really hard cooking and doing laundry for us guys while we were there.



Please continue to pray for Redeemed Vocational School. Pray that God would guide Wismith and Rebecca as they lead the school daily. Please pray for us as a board that we can truly see our brothers and sisters in Haiti the way Jesus sees them, and that we can come alongside them and care over them. Also pray that God would guide and bless our teachers and give them a deeper love and a passion for their students. Last, but not least, please continue to pray for our students that they could see Jesus in us as a school and that the tools they are given here at the school would be used in living lives filled with love and worship towards our Lord and Savior Jesus.

Jonny Sommers

Page 3

## VISITORS & PROJECTS

Page 4



**J** UDITH SCHWARTZ spent 4 months at RVS this winter helping with the everyday tasks of life in Haiti — cooking, cleaning, laundry, hosting, projects, and spending quality time with her sister, Rebecca Joseph. She learned to make an impressive and authentic pot of Haitian rice and beans — so authentic, in fact, that some of our Haitian staff had a hard time believing the meal had not been prepared by a Haitian cook! Thank you, Judith!



## A CURRENT NEED

### IF YOU

ARE AN EXPERIENCED AUTO MECHANIC ENJOY SOME ADVENTURE LIKE NEW FOODS, LANGUAGES, & CULTURES INTERACT WELL WITH OTHERS HAVE A STRONG RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

# **RVS needs YOU**

to mentor graduates of our mechanic class and work with them as they staff and operate **REDEEMED MECHANIC SHOP** FOND PARISIEN, HAITI

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL **740-305-9849** 

#### Page 5

# OURSIDDENIS

### **CURRENT SEWING STUDENTS**

I laugh when I remember a moment a few years ago when Wismith was telling me about his vision for a school and he was suggesting that I could help with a sewing class, because that is exactly what has happened. I serve as secretary and home-maker here in Haiti, but I also help with our sewing class. I've always loved sewing, but I never imagined that it would be such a valuable skill for living in Haiti – not because of the power of sewing but because of the doors it has opened for me.



In the sewing room I've learned how to take measurements and turn them into a pattern that's custom made just for you, but most importantly I'm learning (present continuous tense) the language and culture of Haiti. My students are my teachers and I'm always learning something new! They each have a story, and I'm honored to be part of their lives. Many of our students that have graduated do sewing as a small side business for added income when they finish the classes.

Rebecca Joseph

#### FUTURE SEWING STUDENTS who come to class with their mothers ©







Page 6

# AGESOFRAS

ADAME LERGO comes to the sewing class with her 3 girls. She's hoping to be able to start a small business when she finishes the class, and it looks like her girls will be able to help her as well! Her oldest can draw a pattern as well as any of our students even though she is not formally a part of the classes. She helps her Mom with homework and has also sewn her own skirt!









### To every person who prays, visits, donates, encourages, and shares about RVS

FOR INVESTING A PORTION OF YOUR LIVES IN HELPING RVS FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSES IN FOND PARISIEN, HAITI

### <<< MAY GOD BLESS AND KEEP YOU ALWAYS ►►►



### A very big THANK YOU.... To HAITI BENEFIT AUCTION STATE BOARDS

FOR INVITING US TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR STATE AUCTIONS

### A very big THANK YOU... To GOD OUR GENEROUS FATHER

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