



Entrance to St. Paul's Mission, Petit Trou de Nippes, Haiti

The Mission of this project is to provide a solid foundation for the future by providing education, access to health care, potable water, sanitation, economic development and an improved quality of life for the people of Petit Trou de Nippes.

children under the age of twenty. They cling to the hope that their lives can be more than struggling to stay alive.

THE COLORADO HAITI PROJECT:

The Colorado Haiti Project is making a difference. Medical and dental mission teams have been giving vaccinations, physicals, treating illnesses, repairing and extracting teeth and giving nutritional advice for over fifteen years. For over ten years the CHP has provided an education for children who would otherwise remain illiterate (according to the first census performed in Haiti in over 24 years and published May 10, 2006, less than half of all school-age children attend school in Haiti). Thanks to a grant provided by Bishop Winterrowd, St. Paul's Mission Church was completed in 1999. Now, to continue their mission to improve the human condition in Haiti, CHP has launched the Three Bishops' Fund for Haiti. By building a solid foundation for the future of this desperately poor rural area in Haiti, CHP is bringing hope to a once hopeless situation. The efforts of the Colorado Haiti Project are changing lives.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL:

From the beginning, CHP together with the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti has focused on educating the local children. Co-founder, Father Ograve Lafontant, insisted that providing a school and hot lunches was more important than building a church. Most of the parents in Petit Trou can neither read nor write making it impossible for them to read



St. Paul's Church, built with funds from the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti houses classes during the week.

to their children, even if they could afford the books. However, parents all over the world, especially in Haiti, dream of a better life for their children. In 1995, CHP started the Koolbi Program to help pay for the operational costs associated with the school – hot lunch, teacher's salaries, books, pencil's, etc. Many of St. John's parishioners are supporters of this program through student sponsorships. St. Paul's has been fortunate to have a well-educated pre-school teacher who has started a creative head-start program for young children preparing for the first grade.

Before the church was built, the students would take their lessons in a long narrow one-sided school with dirt floors where the mud oozed between their toes during the rainy season and dust made patterns on their books during the droughts. Rough-hewn benches are the seats and desks with class areas separated only by black boards on rickety stands. Even with all these obstacles, the children preserved to pass the rigorous end-of-year examinations to move on to the next grade or to a secondary school. St. Paul's for the last three years has been recognized as an outstanding school in its region due to the high test scores of the matriculating students.

THE THREE BISHOPS' FUND FOR HAITI:

Last year, the Colorado Haiti Project launched a new project - the Three Bishops' Fund for Haiti. The Three Bishops' Fund for Haiti is named after and supported by Bishop Jerry Winterrowd (former Bishop of the Diocese of Colorado), Bishop Rob O'Neill (current Bishop of the Diocese of Colorado), and Bishop Zache Duranin (Bishop of the Diocese of Haiti).

The mission of this project is to provide a solid foundation for the future by providing education, access to health care, potable water, sanitation, economic development and an improved quality of life for the people of Petit Trou de Nippes. The goal of CHP's Three Bishops' Fund for Haiti is to raise \$2.2 million total, with \$1 million coming from the churches in the Diocese of Colorado. At print time, CHP had collected a total \$460,000 for the Three Bishops' Fund for Haiti – just over \$30,000 of which has come from St. John's, Boulder.

CHP is using the funds they receive to get work done as quickly as possible. The Women's Resource and Education Center was completed in spite of torrential rains and flooding, in time for classes to open last fall. The women are learning valuable skills that will help them to form home-based businesses and have a way to support their families. Each new building will be fitted with large rain gutters and cisterns to provide potable water to the building. A community potable water project is in the planning stages.

OUR MONEY MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE:

Our dollars go a long way in Haiti. The school building will be 14,000 sq. ft. and cost \$27,500/sq. ft. It will have 14 classrooms, and educate 700 children at a time, 50 per classroom.

of large rocks with nothing but small sledge hammers, breaking them into small rocks, while others broke small rocks into the gravel needed to make concrete. Trenches had been dug by hand. Sand, gravel and cement were mixed to make concrete. Men carried rocks to the masons who were constructing the stone walls. It was a team effort, working from 6 am to 4 pm in the humid, tropical heat. The new St. Paul's school building was coming alive. Every fifteen days the workers rotate, so other local men can work, probably the only

and former president, was elected by the poor majority across the country, though it's too soon to tell what his leadership will bring. Haiti is trying help its people but until it can provide a consistent infrastructure, the people of Haiti are looking to their neighbors for help.

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The Women's Resource and Education Center now being used part time for children's classes until the school is completed

work they will have this year. In two weeks, these men can make enough money to support their families for a year. Haiti is making some progress on her own. Last year saw the highest economic growth since 1999 – a whopping 1.5%. In early 2005, Haiti paid its arrears to the Bank, paving the way for re-engagement with the World Bank. New president Rene Preval, an agronomist

Here, in Boulder, we are fortunate if we can build a man can make enough money to support their families for under \$200/sq.ft. "If the weather holds, if your contributions and pledges continue to flow into CHP, and God willing, we can continue to take our stand against poverty and oppression in this one small corner of the world, replacing it with the love of Christ, a gift that belongs to each one of us on this earth. Please



Women's Resource and Education Center during construction

help, however you can," implores Snyder.

We often get frustrated with how little we can do to change the course of world events. Haiti is a place where we get so much for the amount we contribute. The Three Bishops' fund for Haiti will make a significant difference in the lives of the people in Petit Trou de Nippes for many years to come.

"The Three Bishops' Fund is a Gift to St. John's. In a country that is often considered hopeless, we are bringing the opportunity to the men, women, and children of St. Paul's Church and the Petit Trou community to create a place in the world where all people are restored to unity with God and each other!" exclaimed Deacon Pat.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Girls standing on the balcony of the completed Women's Education and Resource Center

"If the weather holds, if your contributions and pledges continue to flow and God willing, we can continue to take out stand against poverty and oppression in this one small corner of the world."