

TALLAHASSEE in HAITI

story by Christmas McGaughey, photographs by Geraldine Wilkins



Team worship leader Ryan Gray shows villagers in Demeline the limbo. Pastor Etienne Massillon (right) held the broomstick as Ryan squeezed underneath.



Mission team member Roshad Thomas naps in the afternoon heat, using a puppet from the skit as a pillow.

Calvary Chapel Tallahassee recently made its sixth trip to Haiti in the last two years. They work with a native pastor to establish churches and a ministry headquarters, as well as building a medical clinic.



Children follow after Pastor Ray in the village of Maillette.

In the back of the makeshift medical clinic in Morne Blanc, Jonal Celan, 20, lay face down on the concrete, a large tumor bulging from the back of his neck. He had walked four hours that morning to be the first in line, hoping these foreigners could do what the witch doctors could not. He lay silent, forcing himself not to cry out in pain as the American doctor opened his neck, probed, and removed a growth the size of a ping-pong ball. Ruth Bush, a vascular surgeon, prayed for the young man as she performed the procedure, amazed that he did not wince or yell, since he had no anesthetic. He lay still and silent as she bandaged his neck, then he sat up and thanked her.

He told the missionaries that day that he did not wish to accept Christ, but he knew that no one had ever been able to help him with his tumor.



Nurse Kaye Daffron shows Danyell Davis how to read a thermometer. Danyell assisted Kaye in the medical outreach.

Jonal went outside where more American missionaries were performing skits and telling the crowd that had gathered about the power of God. Young people performed a drama set to music—it was the story of Jesus and how He can heal the hearts of the angry, fearful, self-righteous, and addicted. Jonal’s face grew serious as he watched with wide eyes. He left, silent again, his face showing the impact the message had made. Native pastors also shared the Gospel with him and invited him to come to their church.

Gospel Presentation

During the presentation, while missionaries played worship songs, three teenage girls moved to the front of the group. Two of the girls accepted Christ as the pastor’s son, 15-year-old Agape Lataillade, interpreted and helped share the Gospel. Louisemene Exime, 16, had listened intently as the Americans shared with her that God can heal a person’s pain, sorrow, and broken heart. After she accepted Christ, she told them that her mother had died two weeks before, leaving behind her father, three younger siblings, and herself.

“The way the medical team helped people and prayed with them touched me. The people here can see the love of God in the missionaries and believe.”

Genithe Theodore, 16-year-old Haitian

One of the local pastors asked her to come to church for discipleship. He had visited Louisemene’s mother while she was on her deathbed in the small wood and dirt hut that was home to their large family. He had shared the Gospel with the family and remembered that



Pastor Patrick Lataillade talks with Genithe Theodore about receiving Jesus as her personal Lord and Savior.

Louisemene had not accepted Christ that day. With tears of joy, he told the American team how grateful he was that they had come to Morne Blanc.

“As the Bible says of laborers in God’s fields: one plants, one waters, and one harvests,” he said.

Louisemene’s cousin, Genithe Theodore, also 16, was listening as the missionaries shared about Jesus as well. She too prayed to accept Christ. She said, “The way the medical team helped people and prayed with them touched me. The people here can see the love of God in the missionaries and believe.” She asked for prayer that she would be able to stand strong in her new faith.

Pastor Patrick Lataillade and his wife, Barbara, have been serving the Lord in Haiti for nearly two decades, recently affiliating to become Calvary Chapel Port-Au-Prince. Barbara said that the government officials, who credit powers of darkness for political victories, have twice dedicated the



Dr. Ruth Bush examines an elderly woman through a translator in Morne Blanc.

country to Satan. Barbara said that CC Tallahassee's multiple short-term trips have added stability and encouragement to the work God is doing there. The Calvary pastors have helped disciple many of the young men who are now ministers and leaders, supporting them by holding conferences, teaching Calvary distinctives, and encouraging verse-by-verse teaching.

"This shows the Haitians they really do love them and will keep coming back. That's very impressive to the them," Barbara said. The team from Tallahassee has been to Haiti a dozen times and has long-range plans to build a ministry center there. Though it

would take them years to complete unless more Calvary groups decide to assist, the Tallahassee church plans to build three buildings in Maillette. The first will be a place for visiting missionaries to stay.

"It will be used to train indigenous missionaries who will go out to evangelize new villages and start new churches," said Ray Hanselman, assistant pastor at CC Tallahassee who leads the Haiti outreaches. A 300-seat capacity sanctuary and a large medical clinic will also be built in Maillette. "We pray these buildings will be a hub for ministry throughout all of Haiti."



Pastor Ray Hanselman shares with villagers in Morne Blanc.

During their trip in late June 2002, a team of nearly 20 Americans spent three days in two mountain villages where they administered medical care to 250 people, fitted 100 with donated eyeglasses, and shared the Gospel message with over 300.

Nurse practitioner, Kaye Daffron, who has been on seven trips, said that many Haitian Christians are persecuted physically and spiritually. Witch doctors have allegedly sprinkled poisoned powder around the believers' homes.

"When they or their children walk outside, terrible sores appear on their legs. Improper



Missionaries sleep on the roof of the Latallide home in Port-Au-Prince to escape the heat.



Villagers in Demeline listen to Pastor Etienne Massillon give the Gospel message after the mission team performed a skit and a puppet show.

medical care can result in the loss of a limb," Kaye said. She has treated the wounds of many persecuted Christians in Haiti.

Several of the young Haitian men who were discipled by Patrick and Ray are now pastoring small village churches. Pastor Etienne Massillon accepted Christ as his Savior as a teenager ten years ago and has been pastoring CC Demeline for nearly a

year. "The church has grown so much since I got here, even though the Christians face much persecution," he said. "Locals try to discourage them, but people are still coming to the Lord." He has an activity or service at the church every day and teaches school to the village children throughout the year.

During their visit to Demeline, the team noticed a small, stooped, elderly



Pastors Oniel Saint Louis and Asquin Astrel are aided by local women as they construct the interior walls of the ministry home in Maillette.



Pastor Oniel Saint Louis and Marta Arrington pray for Terian Teillard, 91. Terian had his eyes checked by Marta and received reading glasses. Teillard is glad that he can now see the words in the Bible.

“I was lost for 90 years. I thought I was ok, but I was lost. I was in darkness and now I’ve come into the light.”
Terian Teillard, new believer

man scuffling toward the clinic. The life expectancy of Haitian men is 55, but he was 91. With dozens of laugh lines creasing his face, Terian Teillard beamed a toothless smile as he told the team he had accepted Christ a year ago, after living most of his life under voodoo. He said he has learned much at CC Demeline. “They told me about Jesus,” he said. Gesturing to the steep, rocky mountainside, he added, “I can’t walk anymore, but God brought this church here, right next to my home.” Marta Draughon gave him a pair of donated glasses, and



Pastors of six churches met to learn the Calvary distinctives, which had been translated into Creole by Patrick Lataillade. One torch lamp provided lighting, casting huge shadows behind the men.



A cement channel runs from the mountain edge through a corn field to irrigate the fields and water the animals. It is also used for bathing.

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Pastor Patrick Lataillade has a time of fellowship with Terian Teillard. Teillard was saved a year ago at the age of 90.

Terian said he would come to the school with the children so he could learn to read God’s Word. ☺

“Then He took a little child and set him in the midst of them. And when He had taken him in His arms, He said to them, ‘Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me.’”
 Mark 9:36-37

2003 Calvary Calendar

Month	Dates	Location/Event	Host
March	24-26	High Sierra Pastors’ Conference	Dan Steen - CC Gardnerville, NV
April	10-12	Great Lakes Pastors’ Conference	Dwight Douville - CC Appleton, WI
May	19-21	East Coast Pastors’ Conference	Joe Focht - CC Philadelphia, PA
June	2-5	National Pastors’ Conference, Senior Pastors Only	Brian Brodersen - CC Costa Mesa, CA
September	8-10	N. California Pastors’ Conference	Michael McClure - CC San Jose, CA
	22-24	Northwest Pastors’ Conference	Wayne Taylor - CF Seattle, WA
October	13-15	Midwest Pastors’ Conference	Dave Keesee - CC Crawfordsville, IN
	15-17	New York Pastors’ Conference	Bil Gallatin - CC Finger Lakes, NY