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“Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.” (Isaiah 55:6-7)

Dear Praying Friends:

It has been an unusual spring. A world-wide pandemic; earthquakes, floods, droughts, fires and locusts; unusual weather patterns; outbreaks of violence. I wondered many times what it will take for people to stop trusting themselves (or money or their job or any other earthly thing) and turn to God.

The coronavirus arrived in Haiti in late March, and the country quickly stopped commercial air traffic. The border with the Dominican Republic is fairly porous, and thousands of laid-off Haitian workers returned home unchecked across those borders. Many of those people were probably infected and took the disease to their communities. Available medical care is minimal, even in the big cities, so it is not possible to know how many Haitians have had COVID 19, or how many people have died of it. There is a stigma attached to having coronavirus, and people are afraid to admit someone in the family might have the disease or that a death has been caused by it.

My workers say the disease has “ravaged” the country. So has crime. Both seem to be more severe in the larger cities. Public transportation and business are beginning to pick up in rural St. Raphael, but in Cap Haitien people have burned cars and shot police. It is clear that the pandemic has not slowed crime.

We closed the clinic in Wallondri because patients were staying home in response to government orders, and transportation was almost at a stand-still. My worker, assistant and pharmacist Sè Tama, moved the major medications to her location in St. Raphael and took care of patients there. I was able to send a much-needed shipment of medications to her in June.

Praise WhatsApp has been a great tool, making it possible to hear from all my workers. Some reported that household members have been sick, but everyone has recovered. They all thank God that they are getting along reasonably well.

The workers received their salaries using some very creative routes.

Haiti just opened to commercial flights at the end of June. Missionary Flights plans to start taking passengers to Haiti in early July.

Prayer Every time my workers send a message, they tell me to thank all those who pray for them. A frequent comment is, “Only God can help us.” Please pray for their physical and spiritual health, for their testimony to those around them, for their safety, and for their needs to be met.

I would like to return to Haiti in August or September, even if only for a short time on this visit. Thank you for praying that I will have wisdom about that decision.

It is easy to think that those around us need to pay attention to what is going on that is out of their control and seek the Lord. The reality is, so do we—every day. As we become more like Christ, we display His love and the abundant pardon available to all who come to Him.

In our Lord’s service,

Dr. Anne

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)
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