



# Dr. Anne Livingston

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*“And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.” (Matthew 14:14)*

August 11 was the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my medical ministry in northern Haiti. It has been good to think back over the years and see how God has lead.



The clinic has been held in several locations, starting with the storage depot in Merlaine. There was no electricity then, and I can remember using my grandfather’s railroad lantern for light to put in stitches one night. Going to the depot after the rain in the dark was an adventure because there was usually a tarantula on the wall, trying to get out of the wet. In 1996, we moved to the completed section of the hospital building. We had separate rooms for consultation and pharmacy, a waiting area for patients, and storage space. We also finally had electricity thanks to solar power. We moved to the front section of the building in the spring of 2008. That was a busy time with a team one week, moving all the clinic stuff that weekend, and having a

wedding the next Friday. Maranatha Baptist campus provided a haven when I left Merlaine in 2009. We used a couple of available classrooms for two years, and then moved to rooms provided an another part of the campus. We are looking forward to having our own location again when the ministry residence is completed.

I have been grateful for the many people who have offered their skills over the years. Building designs and floor plans, cement work, sealing roofs, plumbing and electrical work, excellent meals and nursing assistance have all been generously given for the service of God. The men in construction trades willingly taught what they knew, and that is being reflected in the current building project.

The clinic staff members have both blessed and encouraged me. I was moved to tears in 2009 when they chose to leave the other location and start the new ministry with me in Wallondri. We work together as a team, taking advantage of the abilities each person has. It was a pleasure to have a special meal with the clinic workers, watchmen and spouses on August 9, celebrating all that God has done for us.



There have been changes with our patients over the years. Most people now arrive by moto-taxi rather than donkey, and just about everyone has a cell phone. People have become much more serious about treating their water since cholera came to Haiti in 2010. This year we had a new challenge when chikungunya fever swept over most of the country.



Many of the physical needs remain the same, and we continue to be one of the few places that offer long term care for heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke patients. We have had patients who made us laugh (the staff still remembers the “garlic” lady). There have been tears for patients who had to be told their diseases were incurable or who refused medical care and spiritual counsel. We have had patients with illnesses that were difficult to diagnose, and have known the frustration of having a diagnosis but knowing that treatment was not available in this country. The staff members and I always try to keep in mind that we are dealing with eternal souls as well as physical needs. Many people have found physical healing, but we have especially rejoiced that there have been people who have put their trust in Christ because of the Gospel message they heard at the clinic.

*“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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College students have created some unforgettable summers. They learned Creole, helped the clinic workers, made friends, learned basic diagnostic skills, handed out tracts, had Vacation Bible School in a rural church, held Bible clubs, and had memorable field trips. The pace of life certainly picked up when they were around, and the food sure disappeared quickly! I remember being encouraged as we studied Tozer's Attributes of God together. Those students are now nurses and doctors, and it has been interesting to hear how God is working in their lives.

You, my supporters, have had a part in all that has happened here. Your prayers and financial support have made the clinic ministry possible. Because of you, thousands of people have heard the Gospel and received portions of God's Word. Some of those people came to Christ soon after hearing the message. Others were restored to health and then came to faith months or years later. You have made good medical care available in this rural area for 25 years. Working together, we have ministered to the physical and spiritual needs of the people in St. Raphael and beyond. May God receive all the glory for what has been accomplished.

In our Lord's service,

Anne Livingston, MD



Staff of Grace Baptist Clinic, Wallondri

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