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“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.”

(Psalm 27:14)

Waiting has taken on new meaning in this COVID-19 pandemic year. Waiting to understand how to respond to a lot of information and directives; waiting for when we could return to church services; waiting for the return to regular school classes; waiting for jobs to return to something like the old normal for those who had jobs, and waiting to return to work for those who were laid off or lost their jobs; waiting for special events and waiting to grieve; waiting to see if someone we know gets the virus, and if they recover...or not. None of us ever were in control of our lives, but that reality has become evident to everyone in the past few months. The responses have ranged from anger and violence to depression and seclusion. For those who belong to God, this has been a time to wait on Him and find our security in the One who is our rock and the anchor for our souls in the storm.

The first known cases of COVID appeared in Haiti in March, and the disease spread rapidly after that. Factors included many people living in close quarters, the need to get out for daily income, and minimal medical care. Many Haitians returned from Dominican Republic after losing their jobs from work shut-downs there, and some people probably brought the infection with them. Their return made already crowded living situations worse and removed the income they had been sending home. There is a stigma attached to the disease, so people have been saying they have “colds” to avoid being attacked. Meanwhile, crime of all sorts has increased, and so have the prices in the markets. Christians are waiting on God to provide for their needs and security. They are also waiting to hold meetings in their churches again.

My desire has been to return to Haiti, but my staff still wants me to wait. Violent crime is the major reason, but coronavirus is still a problem. I was able to send medications and salaries to Haiti at the beginning of July, so our patients will be able to get medications and my workers have provisions. I have had opportunities for ministry where I am living, as well as time for continuing medical education and reading.

Praise God has provided health for my workers and their families. A few family members have been sick, but they recovered rapidly.

Hurricane Isaias was huge, and was projected to hit all of Hispaniola. It did strike northern Dominican Republic, but then veered north. The Cap Haitien area only had strong winds and some rain.

Projects We are going ahead with some needed clinic property improvements after waiting for months for things to quiet down. Prices will only continue to rise, and our projects will provide work for locals.

Prayer Please pray for health and safety for my workers. They greatly appreciate your prayers for them. Please pray that Christians will glorify God as they trust Him, and that those around them will be drawn to the same trust.

This year, we have seen disease, major disruptions in our lives, devastation (natural and man-made) and death. We should turn to God in the midst of our uncertainties, resting in Him, seeking what He would have us to do, and knowing that He will accomplish His will in the earth.

“Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him...” (Psalm 37:7a)

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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