

February 6, 2017      Update from Haiti

Tomorrow is a special day for Haiti. We will see a new president take office. This event has been delayed for a year because of challenges over the elections. As a result, Jovenal Moise will serve four years of the normal five-year term.

The clinic has been busy. The heavy rains in early January hatched a bountiful crop of mosquitoes, and we are now seeing patients with malaria. I continue to shake my head at the number of patients who still use raw water. Maybe they think that if it looks clean, it must be OK, right? No, not really. The younger school kids, especially, have problems with parasites because of untreated water. For a few days, we were getting an unusual number of patients who had strokes or hypertension. Two men in that group stand out in my mind.

One gentleman, who was 75 years old, came with several problems, but the notable one was severe hypertension. I asked him about his relationship with God, and he told me he was waiting. The thought that always comes to mind is, waiting for what? His son had come with him, and was quick to confess his faith in Jesus Christ. He said he had talked to his father for years, but to no effect. Last Wednesday they came back for the father's return visit. I was pleased to note that his blood pressure was down to reasonable levels. The son had better news—his father had trusted Jesus Christ for salvation. That is good news!

The other man is 56 years old, and had a history of two strokes. He came because of vision problems, and I think he had another small stroke that was the cause. He was not interested in his spiritual need, unless he could bargain with God. If God would give him back his vision, maybe he would read the Bible. But what about all those years that had passed? Not his problem; it appeared he only wanted salvation on his terms. That is sad news.

I appreciated a call telling me the person was praying for me. It was at a particularly busy time in the clinic, so we surely needed prayer! There was a question about security. We do not have particular security issues in this neighborhood at the present time, but we do take precautions. The staff has requested that we try to get done before 4:30 pm so they can get back to town before dark. That is reasonable considering the occasional bad drivers on the road they travel and the criminal activity that shows up in larger towns. The security wall here at the clinic has dealt with the problems we had of people casually walking across the property.

Thank you very much for praying! You are a vital part of the ministry here.

In our Lord's service,

*Dr. Anne*