

Feb. 15, 2021
Chantilly Children

One of the highlights of our medical mission trip to Chantilly, Jamaica is our opportunity to observe the young children in the community. They appear at church in their Sunday best during our first morning there. Then we watch them attend school all week with scrubbed faces and uniforms.

Our makeshift health clinic is attached to their preschool classrooms. "Dr. Mark," of course, is their favorite. He sees each one of them for wellness checks and updates their immunizations. Finally, one special day, we gather with the pre schoolers for a morning activity, lunch and St. Paul's special gift to the school.

We are so moved by the dedicated teachers who love these young students. Their curriculum is impressive, but most important they teach kindness and respect for others. The kids try to line up with serious faces to greet us, but break into wonderful smiles and laughter in excitement.

We are optimistic that the future of Chantilly is as bright as the children's smiles. So much attention paid to these early years makes for happy, healthy adults. This community is so right to put their resources in their young, knowing that "the first few years last forever."

St. Paul's Church has been remarkable in its annual support of this unique school. Our money becomes a "currency of love" when it sustains this school and the welfare of these children. St. Paul's relationship with Chantilly is a model for making better communities, for making a better world. Thank you for your support.

Oge and Pam Young