

Foundations

Lars Helland is a member of Eternal Shepherd Church in Seneca, S.C. The church sponsors two schools, Rocky Road and Pas Bonbon, in the Central Plateau district of Haiti. Eternal Shepherd has worked directly with the pastor and schools before adding the Trinity HOPE Feeding Program. Lars gives a unique perspective of the program and its impact, since they saw the schools before the feeding program was put in place.

The schools in Pas Bonbon and Rocky Road have very secure foundations. First, Jesus Christ and the study of God's Word. The extreme success of these two schools can be traced to Trinity HOPE providing a meal to each student, every day. Proper nutrition is so very important in students being able to focus. I get pictures and updates routinely, with teachers, staff, and students shown in ever-increasing numbers! The foundation of their studies is with the Bibles and Luther's Small Catechism we provided in both French and Creole. This expands beyond the school, as the parents are involved at home discussing "What does this mean?"

The students know Trinity HOPE, and give thanks every day for their meals. Pastor Samuel of Pas Bonbon approached us a few months ago with a "plan for the future." They set a goal to become more self-sufficient in providing meals, a simple plan to grow fruits and vegetables for home consumption and to sell, so they have money to buy grains and fresh market items. We sent a check to set the plan into motion. What they managed to purchase for that small amount of money was considerable. Parents, teachers, and staff were out tilling the field at Pas Bonbon, and planted 700 banana trees, 120 Cypress/Lemon trees and 47 Mango trees. Wow!

December update – Pas Bonbon is adding a 6th grade class!! **How did all this start? Trinity HOPE!** We are blessed to be part of this ministry! Thank you, Trinity HOPE!

To God be the glory! In his service,
Lars Helland, Eternal Shepherd LCMS Mission Committee Chairman