

# many hands

QUARTERLY

Celebrating **10 years** of ministry | 2008-2018

SEPT 2018 - THIS ISSUE

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## WALKING BOLDLY IN FAITH



It was 2014 and the Many Hands staff were lifting up fervent prayers to God. We had just experienced some of our hardest struggles in Haiti and staff were looking for an answer amidst doubt and hardship. God answered those prayers as He often does, with a loving call. In 2015, God set a vision in the hearts of our staff to create a new base of focused ministry in the Sylvain area. He wanted us to walk with the families in this community day-by-day. It was a big call, as we were essentially starting from scratch. But we stepped out in faith and obedience, knowing that our faithful God was going before us. What happened next was incredible.

We launched our 50/50 Campaign, raising \$161,670 to fund our new Sylvain campus. After completing construction, our ministry exploded, impacting more lives than we thought possible. Three years later, we can see the fruits of this labor: 3 million meals served, 850 homes with new cement floors, 83 new families supported, and 230 lives now dedicated to Jesus. God called, we stepped out in faith, and He poured out His blessing on the ministry. We look back and say, "God is good!"

Now, in 2018, we have heard this call again, with God asking us to boldly move into Marliarette, multiplying our mission to reach more families in need. Though Sylvain is quite poor by rural Haitian standards, Marliarette holds some of the poorest communities in Haiti. Many families are forced to live on less than \$2 a day, where more than 65 of every 1,000 children will die before they reach five years. God is calling us to a place of extreme poverty, with a desperate need to know the love of Jesus. God has equipped us to meet the people of Marliarette where they are at, strengthening their families and their community.

The Cuirus family are a perfect example of the life-transformation this new campus will bring. Newly married and with very little to their name, Saintilous and Katie settled together in Marliarette over a year ago. Saintilous had no formal education so he worked as a hired farm hand, supporting his family as best he could. They had one daughter, Sandline, with another child on the way. The home they lived in was unsafe, with dirt floors and mud walls doing little to protect the family. Uncertain of their next meal, or even how they would cover medical expenses for their new baby, Saintilous and Katie were unsure of what the future held.

Through our Love in Action programs established in Sylvain, we have been able to support this family in many ways. First, a new cement home has been built, providing a safe living environment, especially for their children. Second, the family have been given the chance to attend classes in subjects like agriculture or leadership development to better equip them for the future. Today, the family of three we met a few years back is a happy family of four. Baby Juju, named by her sister, sports little chubby baby arms and legs paired with the same bubbly personality as the rest of her family. Saintilous completed the Many Hands agriculture program and is now better equipped to provide for his family long-term. Also, through the generous support of a donor, Katie and her new baby were invited to join the First 1000 Days program in Marliarette, which will provide meals for the child and caregiver with monthly check-ups and support for the first 1,000 days of Baby Juju's life.

Families like Saintilous and Katie's are not unique; there are so many in desperate need for others to walk alongside them. Many Hands has been able to make a significant impact on hundreds of families in this exact way through Phase One of the 50/50 campaign and continued support from donors.

Praise God that we were able to meet our 50/50 campaign goal of \$100,000! We are set to begin construction on the Marliarette campus in late September, which we expect to be completed early in the new year. Funds from this campaign will provide an equipping center, a nurse's station, latrine, clean water access, and electricity. The satellite campus will continue to work towards total community transformation, changing the lives of 5,000 people and 150 families. There are many in Marliarette with similar stories to Saintilous and Katie's that have not yet been reached. Thank you for choosing to stand with these families. Through your generous support, funds, and prayer, we are able to be love in action to another community in our broken world.

# BREAKFAST WITH A BESTSELLER

MANY HANDS  
**BUSINESS BREAKFAST** | OCT 5 2018  
FEATURING  
**Tommy Spaulding**  
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER OF

*The Heart-Led Leader*  
*It's Not Just Who You Know*

[www.mh4h.org/bb2018](http://www.mh4h.org/bb2018)

The banner features a portrait of Tommy Spaulding on the right. The background is a gradient of purple and pink. Two book covers are shown in the center: 'The Heart-Led Leader' and 'It's Not Just Who You Know'.

On October 5, 2018, the inaugural Many Hands Business Breakfast will take place at the Embassy Suites in downtown Des Moines. The breakfast will host *New York Times* bestselling author Tommy Spaulding as keynote speaker, while raising awareness for the work Many Hands is undertaking in Haiti. The event will start at 7:00 am and end at 9:00 am.

Attendees of this event will receive unique training on how to become a heart-led leader, learning more about the impact they can make as a leader. The business breakfast also provides the opportunity to network with a community of other purpose-driven, like-minded leaders, enjoying a plated breakfast.

Spaulding is not only a bestselling author but a leadership expert and nationally acclaimed speaker. He is the former CEO of renowned global leadership organization Up With People. He is currently the President of Spaulding Companies Corporation, an international leadership development and training organization. Spaulding is the author of "It's Not Just Who You Know", which hit #2 on the *New York Times* bestseller list. His latest book, "The Heart-Led Leader" is a #1 *New York Times* and #1 *Wall Street Journal* bestseller and was named as a "Top 100 Business Books of 2015" by INC.com. Spaulding believes heart-led leadership can change the lives of everyone you lead and serve, especially in a country like Haiti.

"Last year, I participated in a volunteer trip with Many Hands for Haiti and it changed my life," shared Tommy Spaulding. "My entire family and myself are all going back next summer, along with thirty high school students from the International Leadership Academy. The work Many Hands is doing in Haiti is incredible. I've seen it first-hand."

Tommy will share a heartfelt message that focuses on transforming organizations and building committed teams. Many Hands Executive Leader Tim Brand will also be presenting, sharing how leadership is making an impact in Haiti, and the transformations taking place as a result.

"I had the pleasure of taking Tommy to Haiti with us in December 2017," shared Tim Brand. "He has become a personal champion for our cause and believes in the work we are doing. I am excited to bring him to Central Iowa for all to hear his message. I'd love for all the Many Hands Champions to join us for this breakfast."

Join us and register now at  
[www.mh4h.org/bb2018](http://www.mh4h.org/bb2018)

📅 OCT 5, 2018 | 7AM-9AM

📍 EMBASSY SUITES DOWNTOWN DES MOINES

All proceeds from this event support the work of Many Hands for Haiti.

## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

By Micah Aurand, Administrative Coordinator, Haiti



As Many Hands continues to grow since laying down roots in Sylvain, the need for an administrative building became increasingly apparent. In February of 2018, ground was broken for the new building. Locally sourced materials and laborers were used wherever possible during the construction process. A missions team from the Many Hands Market in Spencer, Iowa added character to the tan walls with splashes of bright green, royal blue, and deep purple. White iron windows were bolted down as desks were slid into ten individual cubbies, marking the office ready to use!

The managerial team has recently moved into their selected spaces. Many Hands Construction Manager, Jean Rene Deforge, utilizes his desk to organize assessment forms for Safe Homes programs. Neighboring him is Kalot Alexis, the Head of Security, who oversees campus safety. Pastors Lumanès and Jean Ronel look forward to using the closet to store supplies for the evangelism ministry. Darryl De Ruiter, Organizational Development Manager, says, "This space is beautiful and greatly needed. It will help the ministry be better coordinated and more effective for the future." With the plans God has for this ministry, we are excited to be equipped for the future!



# GARDEN OF BEGINNINGS

Micah Aurand, Administrative Coordinator, Haiti



It was a simple piece of land at the start - nothing much to look at. Not neglected yet the soil murmured of untouched potential. Oxen plodded slowly along pulling the plow's blade with them. The people with their wheelbarrows, shovels, and machetes followed close behind, shaping beds out of the earth for the green seedlings. The empty land transformed into a garden of beginnings.

The agricultural class started in March of 2018 with the purpose of training families to grow fuller gardens, enabling them to use the crops as a source of nutrition and income. Within the ten-month class, two full growing seasons naturally divided the course into two stages. Twelve adult students, representing twelve of the families in the Power to the Parents program, stood on the edge of a recently plowed field that day. Over the next five months the students would learn to work together under the guidance of their instructors. This was the first stage of their training.

Agronomist Claudin Augustin had two main objectives for his students in the spring growing season. The first was to take the students straight to the ground. This meant allowing them to experience, hands-on, planting a successful garden while being taught by the Many Hands agronomy specialists. They learned the importance of building plant beds, using fertilizer, and daily waterings. The instructors were thrilled with the students' willingness to faithfully care for their gardens.

The second goal for the first stage was to emphasize the importance of cooperation. "If they put their heads together, they can do great things." Claudin explains that gardens have the potential to yield better results if people are willing to work together to shoulder the burden and share the crop. Harvest time proved the families were listening when the produce was divided into twelve piles for each to carry to their own homes.

September 2018 will mark the start of the class' second stage. The second stage mirrors the first, however now the students must carry greater responsibility in tending their fields. The agronomy technicians who paved the way in the spring will now allow the students to lead, offering direction only as needed.

To date, the students have shown themselves ready for the challenge ahead. They have taken additional initiative by requesting classroom-setting lectures on subjects such as the importance of agriculture and how to raise a nursery. As a group, the families also decided to pool a portion of their earnings from selling the extra produce into a short-term savings account. At the end of the year, their desire is to use the funds to collaboratively open a business.

Hopes and dreams such as these are what Many Hands strives to equip and encourage. Grounded in Christ, these families are positioned to bring change to their community. This is just the beginning for these students. "That's why we named the field, Alfa Garden," Claudin states, "because 'Alfa' in the Greek means 'beginning' and this is a garden of beginnings."

## NEW FACES

### Thomas Johnson Missiologist and Spiritual Development Manager



In partnership with the RCA, on October 1st, 2018 Many Hands will be welcoming Thomas Johnson as our new Missiologist and Spiritual Development Manager. Tom served in Niger, Africa, for over 15 years with the RCA church, and will continue as an RCA missionary, now assigned to Many Hands' work in Haiti. Tom's competency in French, and years of experience working with pastors and church leaders in education, development, missions, agriculture and animal husbandry projects, at the grassroots level, along with leadership and organizational development at the national level with EERN, will serve him well working with Many Hands.

Tom will join the Pella office, making frequent trips to Haiti for training, mentoring, and discipleship of Haitian pastors, Many Hands staff, and community members. Tom's new responsibilities will include: serving in an advisory role with Many Hands administration, managing all aspects of spiritual development training and implementation revolving around evangelism, discipleship and spiritual warfare, working with leadership staff and program managers to develop Haitian personnel, training trainers and leaders, and providing mentoring and mission care to long-term U.S. staff in Haiti.

"I'm pleased to be joining Many Hands for Haiti and to work with local churches in the U.S. and Haiti to expand our understanding of the Kingdom of God to our communities," said Tom. "I believe God has prepared and equipped me for the exciting work that He is leading in Pignon, Haiti."

Please keep the Johnson family in your prayers as they go through this transition in life and for our team as we add a new member.



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SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

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## TEAMS IN HAITI - MAY TO AUGUST



**Trinity Christian Honors, Chicago, IL**  
May 6 - 19 | People: 15



**Lutheran Church of Hope, Ames, IA**  
May 10 - 17 | People: 16



**Strategic Development Team, USA**  
May 27 - 31 | People: 5



**Christ Covenant Church, Knoxville, TN**  
May 31 - June 9 | People: 18



**Market Rewards, Spencer, IA**  
June 14 - 21 | People: 11



**Mt Olivet Church, Huron, SD**  
June 21 - 28 | People: 13



**Five Forks Baptist Church, Simpsonville, SC**  
June 29 - July 3 | People: 18



**Celebrate Community Church, Knoxville, IA**  
July 5 - 12 | People: 10



**NW Catholic High, West Hartford, CT**  
July 8 - 13 | People: 12



**Trinity Church, IA and First Baptist, SD**  
July 26 - Aug 2 | People: 10