



**** HAITI-NEWS *** HAITI-NEWS *** HAITI-NEWS ****

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4th August 2017

Dear friends of the Life Mission,

in midst of the vacation period I would like to give some news connected to our common work.

The young Wittmers are in Germany for two months

Dieufort and Martina Wittmer with Idiani and Charline and – a little bit later – fosterson and future adopted child Dieuné are in Germany until beginning September. The regulations of German employment laws required that Dieufort as well – contrary to what was planned initially – has to stay here the same time (duration) as Martina and the children. It was not easy for Dieufort to drag himself out of his projects and his many responsibilities. But for the family and for all friends and relatives here in Germany his stay certainly is a blessing.

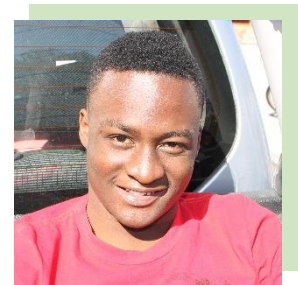
About the difficulty to get a passport....

It's worth to tell how it was achieved that Dieuné could come:

“As a young Haitian and former orphanage child he has been living with the Wittmers as part of the family for 4 years, in their house in the orphanage in Gonaives. Like the two girls he is schooling at home via the German correspondence school system. From the beginning, the intention of taking him in the family was the adoption. Now, the adoption process is has been dragging on this long time and has still not been finished. There had been different bureaucratic obstacles and impediments, and till now, these have not been completely overcome. The one who knows the working method of the Haitian administration knows that every progress has either to be paid by bribery money or perhaps, as in this case, will fall by the way for many years. Not only that the adoption is not legally valid until now, but even obtaining a Haitian passport for Dieuné proved to be an endless story. A deceitful lawyer also is to be blamed for it, who was entrusted and paid by Dieufort and Martina to get the passport, but who has not been active for a long time – inspite of contrary statements and many big words. Therefore, Dieufort could not accompany the family during their last stays and had to stay in Haiti when the rest of the family or part of them visited here. Dieuné knew about Germany only from what his family told him, or German visitors or from the school material, films and TV. It's clear that his wish became more keen to also join the others for the Germany trip. In Haiti he was even teased that his foster and adoptive family would not like to take him along.

In short: The promised dates for obtaining the passport expired one after the other without the passport being handed out in spite of massively increased activities to get it. Finally, the family was forced to leave again without Dieuné and he himself had to stay behind. Certainly, Martina entrusted this to another person and did all necessary arrangements with our Haitian and German co-workers, with the airline and also the Germany Embassy in Santo Domingo responsible for the German visa for Dieuné – just in case that the passport would still be delivered and Dieuné could follow, go on the trip. From the human point of view, it was not at all likely that everything could be managed without the parents and Dieuné could start eventually the adventure of his first stay abroad ever and also his first flight. Many many people in the family, among the friends and in the churches prayed for it and called to God who came near to us in Jesus.

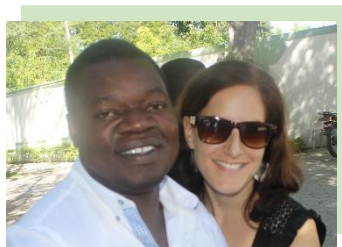
And the wonderful or miraculous thing actually came true: On Friday, one week after the departure of the rest of the family the passport was handed over. Shortly after, Dieuné made the trip to the Dominican Republic, to the Germany Embassy, together with our Haitian director Walner and obtained there the German visa. This happened the following Wednesday, on Thursday there was the flight from Santo Domingo and on Friday morning he arrived in Frankfurt. A big hearing of prayer for all involved, for the glory of God the Father.”



Actual information events of the young Wittmer family

The Wittmers also give presentations of their work for the Life Mission and on their personal project Habitat. Here is an overview on the next dates in August. Those who live near and can manage to come, are welcome and invited to participate:

- Wednesday, 9 August in the Ekklesia parish, Hohebuchstraße 38 in Rot am See, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, 15 August in “Miteinander e.V.” Kurpfalzstr. 77 in Neustadt/Mußbach 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, 19 August in Gloria culture palace, Industriestr.3-5, Landau/Palatinate at 7:00 p.m.



Sponsors run for Haiti

Further, we call again your attention to this year's sponsors run for Haiti in the Landau Goethe park on 3rd September from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please come, bring others and join, either actively as a runner or as a sponsor.

Member assembly

On 30 September at 3 p.m. there will be another members meeting of the Lebensmission. All members will be invited heartily separately.

Our guest house in Gonaives

More than a year ago already, we had applied for financing the interior design resp. decoration of our guest house in the orphanage in Gonaives at/with the foundation of one of the biggest German car producers. Although they accepted the application we have been waiting for a reply until today and they have not even given us an information of rejection in spite of queries. Just today, 4 August I submitted a new application with a middle-class company which has a Christian management and supported Christian organizations several times already earlier. Please pray with us that the necessary money for the financing will be released so that we can finally put in operation the guest section. The shell with all outside doors and windows has been ready for months and we wait now for a promise/confirmation of financing so that we can finish building and equipping it and then accommodate guests.

Financing of formation and studies

About 14 school leavers and abitur students wait that we find further sponsors and donators for them who commit themselves to them and want to help to finance a formation or studies. Our experience of the past years (decades) showed that you do not get very far with just finishing school. Therefore we decided to pay if possible also a formation resp. studies for the children and young people cared for by us. If you feel this is the right thing please contact our office. A monthly regular payment resp. contribution to our studies and formation fund would be more helpful than a personal foster child for a young person studying or undergoing a formation – although this would be welcome as well, of course.



I close this circular as usual with a text from the bible:

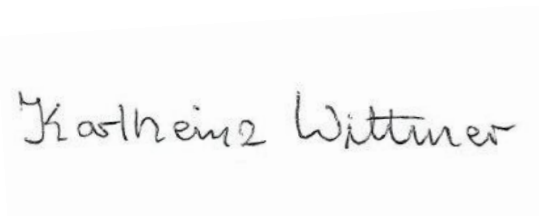
“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Acts 20, 35

Thank you for all giving in prayer, all effort and commitment for Haiti and its people and us of the Life Mission. Also for the finances you give and entrust us with which make our organization capable of acting.

Be blessed all of you by Jesus our redeemer and enjoy the summer time, the vacation and holiday period.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karlheinz Wittmer". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Karlheinz Wittmer
President of Lebensmission „Jesus für Haiti“