

The Fond Doux Flyer February 2023

600 People for Christmas Dinner

Imagine having 600 people over for a Christmas dinner. That is what the people of the Methodist Church of Fond Doux did on December 29th. With 2022 being such a difficult year, the number of people who are hungry in Fond Doux is greater than ever. The month of December is always a difficult time in Fond Doux as garden harvests are at a low point. But this past year, it has been especially rough because of the domestic disturbances which have disrupted transportation and closed down much of the economy and caused skyrocketing inflation. Because people are having a difficult time accessing and paying for food, the Christmas meal was especially welcomed this year.



Some of the Children Fed

When the Foundation was engaged in mission trips, the mission team members would invite people to share with them when they came for a visit. For the last four years, in the absence of mission trips, the Foundation has invited the hungry of the village to share a Christmas meal. In 2019 and 2020, the meal was held at the Primitive Church. For the last two years the meal has been held at the Methodist Church.

People from the Methodist Church with the help of the Haitian staff of the Fond Doux Foundation invited the hungry of the community to celebrate Christmas on December 29th. Lovely Felix, a member of the congregation and vice-principal of the Methodist School, was in charge of arranging the meal.



Preparing the Dinner

Feeding 600 people is no easy task with a modern kitchen. Feeding 600 people when preparing outdoors over an open fire is an even bigger task. We congratulate the members of the Methodist Church for a job well done. We thank the donors of the Foundation that made this celebration possible as well.



The Dinner Helpers

Helping were Justicia Joseph, Janise Louissaint, Guarisson Pierre, Johnson Louis, Lovely Félix, Madam Yve, Marie-Janine Vitelus, Marjorie Elissaint, Elancy Férus, Wesley Paulo, Saintane Gedeon, Sonise Colidor, and Oslena Perciné. (All pictured above.)

So many people came that they needed to feed them in shifts.

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Waiting for Dinner



Chicken



Peppers

In addition to rice, the meal included chicken and peppers and several other Haitian delicacies – a meal worthy of a Christmas celebration.

English Club Celebrates First Anniversary



Some of the Participants

Parents and siblings of the English Club of Ravine Parc met together with the members of the club and its leaders on December 30th to celebrate the first anniversary of the English Club in Raine Parc – over 100 people altogether according to organizer Ancitho Gene. An American pastor, Pastor Anthony was visiting Haiti and leading a Bible training seminar in Ravine Parc. He learned of the presence of the English Club and came as a guest to help celebrate the first Anniversary.



Pastor Anthony and Venelson Vitelus



English Club Sings English Songs

The program included the introduction of the club members, its leaders and guests as well as singing some English songs by the club members. Ancitho Gene and

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Jowasky Saint Surin, club organizers, spoke about the importance of English and how learning English is helping them gain new opportunities in work and education. The food and soft drinks were purchased and transported by Ancitho Gene via motorcycle. Jowasky Saint Surin and Venelson Vitelus, his fellow teachers, helped in the planning. The food was prepared by community members: Raymonde Sainsur, Noël Gilande, Venise Jeune, and Elva Dilerne.



Preparing the Ravine Parc Meal

The people in Ravine Parc are quite poor. The food was quite welcome. The Foundation is glad to have been a part of this grand first anniversary celebration. It is difficult for US citizens to comprehend how big an event a community meal like this really is for people who struggle just to survive.



Club Members with Food

The Club meets at the Hope for Tomorrow School in Ravine Parc every Friday and Saturday. The celebration was also held there. Learning English is an expression of hope for a better tomorrow.

Platon Celebrates the New Year

The Foundation also participated in a third celebration, this one in the village of Platoon. In cooperation with Pastor Jonas and the Good Samaritan School of Platon, a New Year's meal was prepared for the village and the staff and students of the school in January.



Platon School Meal

This is the fourth time the Foundation has provided funds for a reopening of the school in the new year celebration beginning in January 2020. The school is not open over Christmas, so they celebrate a reopening of the school instead.



Food Preparation

The Fond Doux Foundation has been supporting the Good Samaritan School of Platon since 2019, when the Haitian Committee from Fond Doux requested that we help the school. It has 5 teachers and 58 students grades Kindergarten through sixth grade.

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Nurse on Medical Leave

Nurse Vava Delva has assumed the duties of community Nurse during the next several months at the Fond Doux Community Clinic while her sister Myrdred Delva is on medical leave. Myrdred is a private person and prefers that her medical condition remains private. What we can say is that she discovered a serious medical condition in late December, sought appropriate medical care and expects several months to recuperate. Our prayers and good wishes extend to Myrdred, her family and to the staff of the clinic as they deal with this unexpected development.



Nurse Vava Delva

Nurse Vava Delva is Myrdred Delva's younger sister. Her full name is Laura Valarie Delva. She did her classical (high school) studies at CECEV College in Grand Goave and at Lycée Faustin Soulouque in Petit Goave. She studied office computing and then did university studies at ECIP (The Nursing School of Petit Goave) and obtained her diploma. She is now a university teacher. She is familiar with the Fond Doux Community Clinic as she has served as an unpaid volunteer nursing assistant. The clinic is able to operate as usual as she steps in for her sister. We are grateful for her service during this time.

Jowasky Celebrates his Birthday

Jowasky Saint Surin celebrated his 19th birthday by purchasing a school bag and school supplies for a young friend, Junior Pierre. Junior, who lives with his single

mom, helps with his family's finances by selling pine needles and clothing. His mother does not have the money to buy school supplies. Junior is 13 years old and has completed 5th grade. Jowasky was impressed by his young friend's starting a business and decided to celebrate his own birthday by helping Junior.



Junior Pierre and Jowasky Saint Surin

Jowasky is the son of Fritzmann Saint Surin and his wife Carole Therrentiel and the brother of our university scholarship student Schneider Saint Suren. He is a graduate of the Simple English School in Miragoâne.

"SO LITTLE CAN DO SO MUCH"

To learn about our projects or to donate, you may contact the Foundation in a number of ways:

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The Fond Doux Foundation engages friend-to-friend with people in and around the village of Fond Doux, Haiti, helping to provide better access to medical care and health education, improved nutrition through agriculture and animal husbandry, educational scholarships, and intercultural faith-based activities. FDF is a 501(c)3 organization based in Durham, North Carolina.