

Subject:

LCH ministries and social services lost

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From:

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Dear Lutheran brothers and sisters in Christ,

I want to thank all of you for your prayers and support at this time of trial in Gonaives. I praise the Lord for sparing my life during the flood while I was that day driven to return to my house.

That Saturday night around 6:00 PM I was on my way driving to return home when my truck stacked somewhere into the water and the engine suddenly stopped. I had tried to re-start the truck, but the engine did not want to start. I gave up and said to myself I better return over at Church because there is no way I can drive a truck through the water without having the truck starter working over. I had five people helping me pulling the truck out of the water and as soon I got the truck out, the starter was working again. My reflection was: May be the Lord doesn't want me to go through the water because much more waters might be coming up. Therefore I better return over Church. I did return over at Church. What happen was, 20 minutes after I left the area, the big flood came and all the vehicles that had been lined up behind me were all sank and their drivers and passengers killed.

I thank and Praise the Lord for sparing my life that Saturday night September 18th, 2004.

Lots of LCH Ministries and social services have been destroyed. The boy's and elderly home shelter have been damaged, water took all kitchen utencil, beds, orphans cloths etc. Now the boy's shelter and elderly home are empty. About 25 boys and 20 elders are staying over at the Church third story building.

The bloc factory has been also damaged because water took all the equipment and brought them to the ocean. The bakery has been washed out. The oven and the equipment had been destroyed by the water. Nothing, absolutely nothing in terms of equipment survived from the shelter, elderly home, bakery, bloc factory and the computer school. The latter got damaged because the rain was so heavy that Rain water got inside the computers and damaged all of them. No way to repairing them. The two Ministries that have been spared are the TV and FM radio since all the TV and FM radio equipment are located in the mountain, 7 miles from Gonaives.

An estimate of \$75,000 US lost totaling all the Ministries that have been damaged and destroyed such as: boys shelter and elderly home, social service facilities and equipment: bloc factory, bakery, high Tech computer. These lost had occurred in just one day.

I request your prayers as we need \$75,000 US to rebuild and get new equipment to put these Ministries and social services back to work into the Lutheran Church of Haiti. I also request your prayers on behalf of hundred thousand people who now have nothing, they all live in the street.

God bless you all. Thanks again for your prayers and support.

Rev. Revenel Benoit