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We Are Sent by God

We are sent by God;
our hands are ready
to build with Him a world of love.
Angels aren't sent
to change a world of pain
into a world of peace.
We are commanded
to make peace a reality.
Help us, Lord, to do your will.
(Marcos Witt, author)

Hands Ready to Work and Build



by **Caspar Geisterfer**
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Dear Partners in Ministry,

It is a pleasure to once again tell you stories about what God is doing in Honduras and Latin America.

There's a song I love that speaks to the truth about our relationship with God. God desires that we become co-creators with him in the ongoing redemption of the world. That is why Resonate Global Mission has placed so much emphasis on missional communities—groups of people united through Christian community around a common service and witness to a particular neighborhood. That is why World Renew is so committed to community transformation. Together, Resonate Global Mission and World Renew partner in Honduras and Latin America as God's co-creators in His ongoing redemption of the world.

The Manguile CRC building is under reconstruction. Eight years ago, Pastor Adonis Romero showed me a three-dimensional plan of a building that was still a dream. This dream church would be a center of ministry and outreach to the community. Today, that dream is becoming reality because two church communities have come together, both sharing a vision of doing mission together.

Telma Cruz is one of many individuals who have gotten their hands dirty, working on the church structure. Telma, a member of the Manguile CRC, works alongside many of her brothers and sisters, some from Moline, Michigan, and others from Manguile.

Gina Door comes from Moline, Michigan. She is a wife (to Duane), a mother, and grandmother. Gina and Telma represent two different cultures, but they both have hands that were ready to work, ready to build. Like Telma, Gina's hands were ready to build a world of love. Although



Telma Cruz, with ready hands for church

Gina could not speak Spanish, and many in Manguile could not speak English, they found a way to use their hands to show that love.

Hands ready to work and ready to build are a big part of the story. Hands help to change the story, building missional communities. We invite you to join your hands to our hands. Wherever you live, be a part of our missional community, changing the story of the world.

I have been greatly blessed by you, partners in this ministry in Honduras, and your generosity continues to amaze me. I am currently at 33% of my annual support goal, which is right where I should be. In addition, many of you have responded with special donations towards the specific programs I work with. I am very thankful that God has chosen you as partners in ministry.



Gina Door uses her hands to create bonds of love

Looking back with satisfaction



by Leanne Geisterfer
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Did you know there is a Christian Reformed Church in Haiti? The *Eglise Chretienne Reformee d'Haiti*, or ECRH, was legally recognized in 1999 and currently has 45 affiliated churches in seven geographic departments. Resonate Global Mission supports the ECRH with theological training for leaders, along with programs for youth and women. World Renew has also been supporting a community transformation program, working through the local churches to facilitate community organization, capacity building, and development programs. Community leaders evaluate community strengths as well as potential for growth and a plan for achieving that growth.

Most of the leaders enjoy talking about their strengths and are pleased to have a “report card” that can be shared broadly in the community. Along with efforts to increase community strength, groups have worked on income generation, organized savings and credit groups, and literacy training. In some communities, there have been special efforts to help people register their children to be enrolled in public school. The results are shared with pride.

Strengthening local leadership has been a wise investment. The church suffered a denominational leadership



Community capacity report card for Domaya, Haiti

crisis in 2014-15, and funding of national programs was suspended while the church worked through the situation, following their by-laws. A few months ago, looking back at the difficult period during an evaluation with the ECRH, there was recognition that local leaders continued firm in their work at the local level. When denominational leadership issues were resolved, and programs resumed, the work bounced back into action. The leaders look back with satisfaction at the resilience of the communities, feeling that the church as a whole is as strong as ever.



We can't get enough of this precious baby!

Thanksgiving & Prayers

- We continue to be head over heels about our grandson, Odin Jean Michel Geisterfer, born on September 27. We're also thankful for a two-week vacation in late October to get to know him and share this special time with Reuben and Malysa. Since we both celebrated 60th birthdays this year and began our seventh decades of life, it gives us great joy to welcome the next generation. Praise God for this blessing of life!
- In our last letter, we shared that I (Caspar) hurt my back due to a fall. There has been no change in my status and I remain under restricted travel rules —no rough roads for me. It doesn't look like this will change soon, so we thank you for your prayers and concerns. Pray especially that we can find creative ways for me to continue teaching and supervising at a distance.
- Honduras just held elections for new government officials at all levels at the end of November. Post-election violence is not unusual here. Please pray against it and for peace and safety to prevail. Please pray for a peaceful transition based on the results. Also, pray that these new leaders will be motivated to work according to God's principles, along with the laws of the country.