

LOVE AND GRACE MINISTRIES - HAITI



Summer has officially come to an end in Central PA. Our Facebook feeds are filled with pictures of kids heading back to school today. We are praying for a great year for all of our L&G supporters near and far, and we ask that you pray for the L&G boys as they too prepare for another school year. Please stay tuned with future updates on school for the L&G boys. For now, we hope you enjoy this summer recap from a team member serving at L&G and a few photos of summer fun at L&G.

Yvens "mustache" you a question...
did you have a good summer???

The boys at L&G had a wonderful summer serving alongside the July team. They helped build benches for a local church, painted the team apartment, distributed the "shoes that grow" you generously donated, continued nightly devotions and worship, played games, participated in VBS, and prayed you, their sponsors, were blessed this summer, too. Read below to see what a blessing it was to serve at L&G this summer. Thanks again for your continued support to give the boys



opportunities to serve their country to build a brighter future for them and others.

Serving at L&G with the July Team

Kelly Ackerman

For three years I have listened to my dearest friend, Robin Holmes, share about her experiences at Love & Grace Boys Home in Port au Prince, Haiti. Conversations began and ended with an unending joy and love for the boys and the people of Haiti. Many times tears of love flowed as well. This year I decided to see what all the fuss was about and joined Robin along with 8 other amazing people. Now I know why Robin can't speak of Haiti without pure joy and teary eyes of love.

From July 2 to July 12, 2018 I saw and truly understood for the first time

Hebrews 4:12:

“For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

We arrived Monday afternoon, quickly packed up 13 duffel bags full of supplies and our team in the vans and headed for the orphanage. The scars from hurricanes and earthquakes littered the streets as we drove. I couldn't help but think how depressing and sad it would be to live here and then we arrived at Love and Grace and saw something completely different, smiles and boys full of love and hope. We were greeted with hugs, energy and enthusiasm beyond belief.

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you, “declares the Lord, ”plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Twenty amazing boys each with uniquely different stories of their journey to Love and Grace and the loving care of Nancy and the staff. Every right by human standards to be angry and bitter, these boys were full of love, joy and hope. They receive clothes, food, an education and mentoring from the staff there. It is their home.

Psalms 30:5

"Weeping may last through the night, but joy comes with the morning."

The next four days were spent at Pastor Augustine's church in Port au Prince. The first two days were spent building 20 benches for the congregation. Before then there was nothing for the people to sit on. Still they come together to worship. As hot and tiring as that work proved to be, that was nothing compared to seeing 150 kids the next two days sitting on them for VBS. Not only were we able to share the gospel and sing praises with them, but we were able to feed them and give out 100 pairs of "the shoes that grows".

After 4 amazing days we were anticipating getting to deliver shoes as well as VBS to the children of another congregation the following week. That was put on hold when we found out Friday night that we would be staying put for possibly the remainder of the trip. Riots and demonstrations by some of the

people in Port- au-Prince had begun in protest of government policies. From our beloved roof top where we spent so much time playing and praising God we could see at times the fires. But there was no fear. It was so clear that our God had a protective hedge around us at all times.

Deuteronomy 31:6

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you: he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Philippians 4:7

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

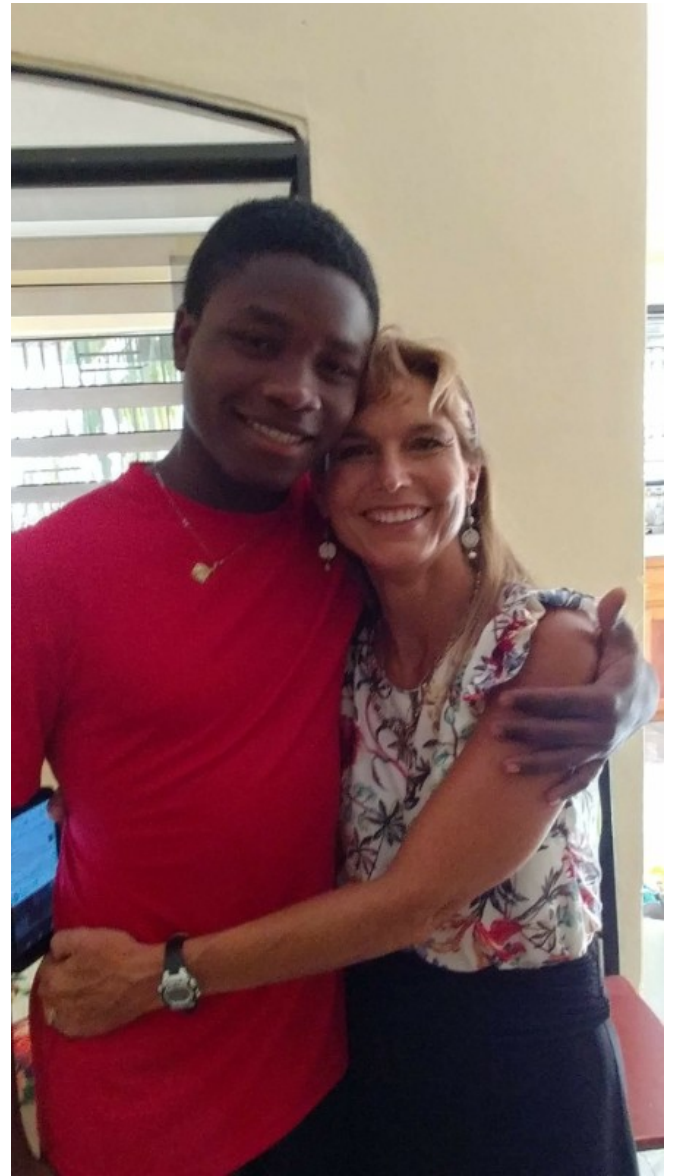
The remainder of our time was blessed with hours of time spent with the boys playing games, singing songs and just building relationships. After a few days we were able to get ahold of some paint and paint the apartment above the orphanage. Joining us in the task, the boys made this time one of the highlights of the trip. After staying in house for a few days we were greeted with a beautiful reminder of a rainbow that God is always true to His promises. Whether in South Carolina or in Haiti, His word is alive and working in and through the lives of His people. He is doing a mighty work through Love & Grace, raising these boys to know Jesus and someday make a difference.

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3: 11-12

Like Robin, I look forward to my next trip to Love & Grace. The boys, the place, the people of Haiti will be forever engraved upon my heart.





Above: Emson and team member, Emma working on benches for Pastor Augstine's church. Bottom left: Apartment painting crew, Laurent, Luckson, and Goodman. Bottom right: Kervensley with team member, Robin.



Above: Two of the children who received a pair of "Shoes that Grow." Thank you for your generous donations to make this outreach happen.



The L&G Boys with their VBS bags donated by Grace Community Church.

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