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God is Good

We are on the verge of releasing our new book "Unsafe Faith." We are excited about our chance to tell the story of our time in Haiti over a number of years of ministry. In it we talk about the miraculous move of God after we lost the property in Tabarre. When this happened over six years ago, it was a difficult time in our ministry. We wondered "How could God let this happen if He wants us to be here?" It didn't seem fair or right. It seemed like evil had won a victory over our ministry. However, now in hindsight our view is different. None of us could have ever foreseen what would happen in the last couple of years in Haiti. We didn't understand, but we simply moved in faith leaning on what we thought God was telling us. So, we bought a field and proceeded to build a new orphanage and take it off grid. God in His infinite wisdom, as always, knew better than us what the future would hold.

It is a blessing to be in our current location. If we were at our old location, we would be in an unsafe part of the city right now. Each day would be a concern for the safety of our kids and staff. Instead, our present location is far enough out of the city that the current events don't often spill over into our neighborhood. (Yes, there have been some recent issues with gangs, but up to this point we have been off their radar. Please keep praying that they stay away from our neighborhood).

Plus, since we are off the grid, our Haitian family has the ability to hold up safely in our property even when outside things have been unstable. In addition to that, we purchased two new guard dogs and finished the wall and gate around our business property right before the current chaotic situation. That means that the orphanage is fully covered by either two walls or our wall and our business property which maintains the safety of our home. God was moving pieces into place way before we were aware. Thank you, Lord!

Yes, there is some chaos in the city right now, but there are also signs of hope. The two prime ministers, who seemed to be vying for power in the midst of the power void left by the assassination of the president, have peacefully decided on a way forward. Also, the police (PNH), which has not seemed to be effective in the past, is stepping up as much as possible. There is reason for hope!! They are also in the process right now of setting up a new election. This is good news for a country where without a leader, gangs rule the streets. Pray that the next leader will have integrity and a mindset to better the country and care for its people!

On top of all the unforeseen provisions, our ministry just keeps moving!!!

1. The workers have painted the second dorm, and soon will tile the entire inside floor.
2. This summer since teams were unable to come, so we kept our teachers employed to do informal classes for all ages. This helps keep the kids busy and provides income for our teachers through the summer months. I still hope to get in this fall to see everyone. James and I stay in constant contact, so hopefully we can still safely work something out.
3. Next month we will start our next campaign to raise funds to build a school and church.

Yes, even in the midst of chaos God is still moving and we are moving forward!! This is an exciting time for us as we watch God continue to do more than we ask or imagine. Join in and help us move forward!!!

Enjoy the journey!

Pastor Mike

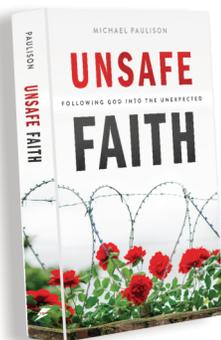
Annual Live Banquets are coming back starting this fall!!!

(Actually, live AND live-streamed so everyone can participate!) Both will be hosted at a local banquet venue. As always, a percentage will go toward our annual budget, but the goal this year is to raise money for our new school and church!!!

We will be sharing our dream and the drawings with you!! There will be a banquet in CO at the Curtis Ballroom *at the Landmark* on Saturday evening, November 6th and Wisconsin in February (TBD). Stay tuned for details and tickets!



“Unsafe Faith” will be on sale starting in September. We are in the last phase of adding photos, and by the time this newsletter is printed we will be in printing! Here are two more endorsements:



Buckle Up! “Unsafe Faith” is quite a ride. Mike’s story and the story of Mission Experience is so compelling because it actually happened, and because, from the first chapter, you get the distinct feeling this could become your story, too!

~ Greg Finke, author of “Joining Jesus on His Mission.”

God’s call is always life-changing if we only listen and be open to the move of God’s Spirit. Pastor Mike shares a gripping tale of how a short-term mission trip he didn’t want to make into a country he never wanted to go, transformed his life and ministry into a mission he could have never expected and could not resist. This story is an amazing journey of trust in God’s leading with many unexpected twists and turns. It’s the story of lives changed by the love of Jesus, not only in Haiti, but by those who responded to a very needy mission field. It’s a wonderful testimony to the power of God still at work in the world today!

~ Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, President of the Florida-Georgia District, LCMS

***Help us get the word out!!!** We are asking our partners like you to help spread the word if you are on social media. Please take a moment and share when we post about “Unsafe Faith.” The book will be available through us, Amazon, and Amazon kindle. Plus, you can order it through any local bookstore.

**The one difference is that if you buy directly from us
your copy will have pictures throughout the book that add to our story.**

Thanks in advance for your help!!!

