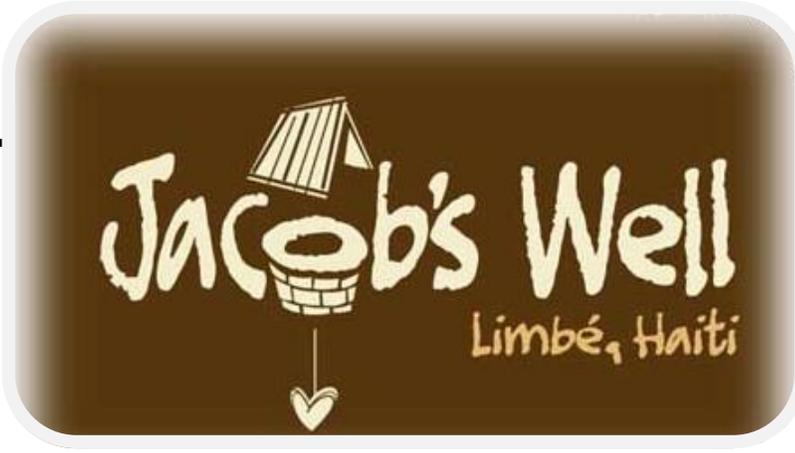


**A TRIP REPORT FOR FRONTIER  
CAMP'S SEVENTH TRIP TO HAITI  
JAN 3-13, 2012**



**What's New at Jacob's Well?**

Five years have passed since the first team from Frontier Camp travelled to Haiti to help start Jacob's Well Youth Camp. In January of 2007, the first successful day camp took place on the undeveloped mountainside with over 98 salvation decisions, and the Lord has continued to work in the lives of the young believers there. Major improvements include an outdoor kitchen, 12 cabins with bunk beds, a shower house, a clean supply of water, and landscaping improvements. In the last few years, multiple other camps and organizations have joined the effort and have helped Jacob's Well expand into a ministry that is serving the village community in various ways year-round! On January 3, a team of 25 from Frontier Camp departed for our seventh trip to Haiti. Here is our story!



*The Haiti 7 Team: (front l-r) Autumn, Natalyn, Mary., Gillian, (middle l-r) Hope, Claire, Ryan, Hans, Jenny, Kaylie, Tanner, Maris, Anneliese, Kaitlin, Baylee, (Back l-r) David, Tomas, Konrad, Gabe, John, Michael, Jack, Greta and Karin (Not in Photo) Dan*

**Days 1-2: Travel**

Our mission trip started Tuesday, Jan 3rd with a packing party at the Monson's house. Due to the size of the airline we traveled on, we were only allowed one 50 pound checked bag each. We ended up needing every pound for camp equipment and work project supplies. Our team did their best to pack all their personal gear into a carry on, which had a 10 pound limit, and one personal item! Then the rest of the packing party was spent shuffling gear between bags to maximize the space and weight allowed for each bag. We finally loaded up the vans and headed to the airport for our flight to Fort Lauderdale. After arriving in Fort Lauderdale around 10:30pm with 24 of our members, we were soon united with Dan,



*Our vision is for Jacob's Well to become a self-sustaining and independent Haitian camping ministry serving local churches and youth ministries. We aren't re-inventing the wheel, just putting a Haitian flair into a proven and time-tested way of providing opportunities for personal growth and spiritual development.*

our 25th teammate who flew in from up north. We had our first devotion in the airport terminal on the life of King Saul, then attempted to get some sleep as best we could in the airport. At 4:30 AM we awoke to check-in for our flight to Cap Haitian, Haiti. Our flights all went smoothly and we were excited to land in Haiti around 10am on Wednesday, even though there was a light drizzle. We loaded up on the Valcin's ministry truck (tap-tap) and took the hour-long drive to Jacob's Well in Limbe where the kids in the village were very happy to see us! As soon as we arrived in the village, the veteran members wanted to go greet their old friends, and the new members wanted to



*"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord." -1 Corinthians 15:58*

**New Full-Time Missionaries**

Clay and Ashley Vaughan, a young couple who met as summer staffers at Frontier Camp and participated in several of FC's past Haiti trips, are now working at Jacob's Well full-time! This is an exciting step for Jacob's Well. Clay and Ashley hosted our team along with Gersan Valcin, the Haitian pastor and founder of Jacob's Well, and his wife Betty. They are living at the campsite and will be responsible for hosting teams from various camps, churches, and medical clinics who have a desire to serve in Haiti. Please continue to pray for Gersan and Betty Valcin and Clay and Ashley Vaughan as they serve the Lord in Haiti.



*Clay and Ashley- Full Time at Jacob's Well*

meet the kids too. So, we had a quick tour of the camp, which ended with a stop at the village soccer field and church where we stayed for a while to play with the kids.



*Playing with Village Kids on the day we arrived*

## Days 3-5: Work Projects, Camp Preparation, and Staff Training

### Power to the Well Pump

One of the main projects our team tackled on the trip was to dig a trench 900 ft up over a hill and lay wire in conduit to connect a water well pump to the camp's electrical system. We packed a total of two hundred pounds of wire in 7 rolls into our baggage to complete this project!

Prior to our arrival, a portable generator had to be moved to the well head each time it was used. After laying the wire, the well can be powered efficiently as needed by flipping a switch! The well pump supplies good water to a cistern high on a hillside which then delivers water to the rest of camp including the kitchen, showerhouse, and the water filter which purifies drinking

water to be used by camp and by the rest of the village.

Thankfully we had handy guys on our team who have some experience in this area, so with the help of Hans, Gabe, and Jack, the well project went smoothly and quickly. The wire was pulled through a PVC conduit all the way up a steep hill and down the other side to where the pump is located. Konrad then glued the PVC pieces together, and many of the other team members assisted in digging and filling the pipe trench. Additional electric work included creating a new circuit for the Vaughan's refrigerator, and rewiring some existing circuits.



### Path-laying: No longer Mud Everywhere!

While one crew worked on bringing electricity to the well pump, another group put down rocks to line the edges of new pathways and carried buckets of gravel to lay

new paths. Anyone who has been to Jacob's Well or seen the shoes and clothes of people who have returned from camp knows that it can be VERY muddy. Because of its tropi-

cal location, Limbe receives a lot of rain year-round, not just in Haiti's rainy season. Not only do things get dirty quickly, but walking in steep hilly terrain can be dangerous and difficult when it is muddy and slippery. JW intern James Hall, a former Frontier Camp staff member and Haiti trip member, spent two months in Haiti and was there when our team arrived. He led the team of "path-layers" which successfully constructed walking paths all around camp. The hope is that the paths will not only make it easier to get around, but also help direct people to walk in designated areas and therefore protect the beautiful vegetation and natural landscaping of Jacob's Well Camp.



### Depot Organization, Inventory, and everything that goes along with it.



A large ongoing task that lasted the entire week was taken on by Ryan, who was able to use a few of the team members to work alongside her. The storage depot needed to be re-organized and the inventory kept track of during the trip, which Ryan managed wonderfully. She knew where everything was and was able to get the supplies needed for work projects, camp activities, and anything else you could think of.

To help her, Karin did a thorough inventory of the medical supplies previous teams have left and organized them into easy to find suitcases based on the types of injuries and illnesses they treat. This helped when treat-



ing camper's during the days of camp.

We were also able to use supplies in the depot to do other odd projects around camp such as re-upholstering chairs in the dining hall, making archery and riflery targets for camp, and coming up with new craft ideas for play-days in the village and for day-camps.

## Camp Preparation and Staff Training

On Thursday and Friday afternoons, we also had staff training for the Haitian camp counselors and activity leaders. Peter Marc, our Haitian program director, led a wonderful staff training for the 21 Haitians on staff. Over half of this year's staff were returning staffers from previous years, and we had SIX former campers who were old enough this year to be assistant counselors and activity leaders! It was neat to see former campers come back as leaders, eager to teach campers the things they had learned!

Peter Marc explained the importance of what they would be doing at camp, emphasizing evangelism and discipleship as the purpose of camp. The Haitian staff were assigned to cabins and activities and received a good explanation of their roles and responsibilities.

At the same time, some of our team members went to the village playing field and put on afternoon "play-days" for the kids, including relay races, soccer, and crafts.



*Singing at the Revival at the Ti Guinea Church*



*Playing with the village kids*



*Re-tarping the church roof before the Revival*

## Days 6 (and 7): Church, Rest and Revival!

On Sunday and Monday evenings, the church in the village had a Revival which we were able to be a part of. Pastor Steve from Hill Country Bible in Austin, and Travis came to preach and encourage the church. Our team was able to join on Monday night. It was a wonderful experience of cross-cultural worship with our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ. Several men, women and children in the Village came to know the Lord as their personal Savior!

## Days 7-9: CAMP— faith, fun, friends, and GAGA!

Prior to the start of camp, registered campers were assigned to cabins by age and gender ranging from 8 years old to about 15. We had a total of about 170 campers!

We opened up the camp gate to let campers in at 9:00 on Monday morning. Camp was almost cancelled due to rain, but after looking at weather forecasts and praying about it, we decided to go forward. Campers checked-in, washed their hands, received their camp bracelet, and were sent to cabin groups to meet their counselors. Because of the rain, the groups all managed to gather underneath tarps which we hastily put up as temporary shelters. After a slightly chaotic check-in process and about 20 minutes of waiting, the rain stopped and we were able to proceed through the rest of the days of camp with no rain and even sunshine!

After an orientation, cabins went to their first activity. The activities this year included Riflery, Archery, 4-ball-rubber pig baseball, Crafts, Bible Memory, Steal the Bacon, and Sports. We added regular baseball as an activity as it was introduced formally this past summer by a team from Grace Covenant Church in Austin. The other new activity was a huge hit...GAGA (a form of dodgeball played in a pit)! The Frontier Camp fulltime staff kids (Emma, Edie, Will, and Tommy) raised money throughout the year and funded the Gaga pits, which the campers loved! They caught on quickly and were very competitive! The cabins rotated through the 8 activities over the three days of camp, with three activities on the first two days, and two on the morning on the last day.

There were five Bible Exploration times spread over the three days. They began with Haitian-led singing. Then came the drama, which Gillian planned and directed. The drama series emphasized different attributes of God: Powerful, Loving, Forgiving, and Merciful. Peter Marc followed the Drama with a lesson expounding on those attributes, and the counselors were encouraged to talk more with the campers about it during the lunch cabin-times. The campers

seemed to really enjoy the dramas and lessons and the Gospel was clearly presented in the process.

Each day, camp ended around 4:00 with a snack bag and glow-sticks for each camper.



*Gaga = "Ballon en Follie" in Haiti*



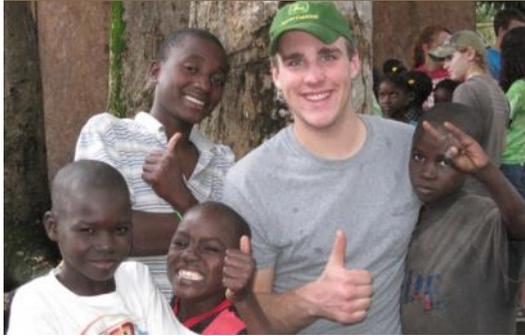
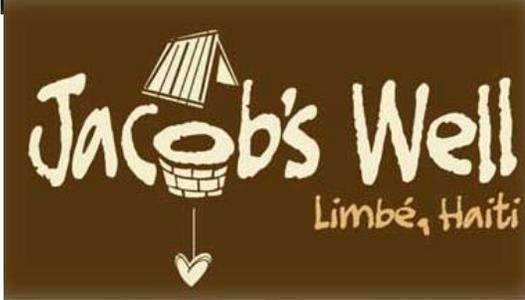
*Bible Drama*



*Baseball*



*Haitian Staff 2012!*



## Camp (cont.)

After lunch on the last day of camp, we introduced another Frontier Camp tradition ... Royal Campfire. Royal Campfire is a time where the campers are able to get up and tell other campers and staff what they learned spiritually at camp. There were several campers and staffers who got up and encouraged us with what they had learned. We concluded the last day by roasting s'mores over the campfire, leaving the kids sugar-filled and sticky, but very satisfied. We sent the kids home around 4:00, which ended a wonderful three days of camp!

God has used Jacob's Well and its ministry to kids to continue to change the nation of

Haiti with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Here are some ways you can help:

**GIVE**— \$35 sends a Haitian child to one day of camp! **SEND**—Consider funding future short-term mission trips or facility needs. **GO**—You don't need any special expertise—just a willing heart! **PRAY**—that Light would continue to shine in the darkness.

For more information, or to give, send, go, or pray:

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[hmeinardus@frontiercamp.org](mailto:hmeinardus@frontiercamp.org)

Pastor Gersan and Betty Valcin—

[gersan@jwmhaiti.org](mailto:gersan@jwmhaiti.org)

Clay and Ashley Vaughan—

[clay@jwmhaiti.org](mailto:clay@jwmhaiti.org)

## Days 10-11: Rest, Return

On Thursday we woke up early for a day of fun and team bonding. We had a delicious breakfast and then piled into the tap tap for a trip to Cap Haitian. Some of the team went and hiked the Citadel, a spectacular fort on top of a mountain in Haiti which holds a lot of interesting history. A few of the team members spent the day in Cap Haitian at a hotel with a pool overlooking the ocean and were able to relax completely. We all met up again in the afternoon and enjoyed some Haitian style marketplace shopping. It was just a great day together as a team before we

had to head home and go our separate ways!

Friday morning we loaded all our gear and left Jacob's Well Camp for the CAP Airport. All our flights went smoothly, and we enjoyed a debriefing devotion together in the Ft. Lauderdale airport. We were greeted by family and friends back in Houston, and are so thankful for all their prayers for our team. God blessed our trip and blessed us in so many ways! Please continue to pray for Jacob's Well Ministries and what God is doing in the village of Ti Guinea!

