

Prince of Peace (POP), Springfield, VA
March 13-18, 2014

The POP team included returning mission workers and a number of first-time participants. Team projects included a craft project and soccer game at the VOH School, a visit to LCJ and the children and adults living at the orphanage, and work at Hope House, the largest project being replacement of doors on the visitor quarters. While at the school, some team



members toured the Health Center and we all participated in the opening ceremony during which the children performed several songs and played a



number of structured games. In addition to those projects, the team visited Food for the Poor, toured the facility and helped

distribute food to individual Haitians. We attended a local church, served by Raymond Peterson, a teacher at the school, went for lunch at a local establishment, and shopped at the Metal Works Village, both for personal gifts and to resell at a fund-raiser for VOH when we return home.

We were also able to tour the Earthquake Memorial site and we visited the Baptist Haiti Mission and in doing that we met the founders, Wallace and Eleanor Turnbull, who happened to be in Haiti for a visit, but who currently reside in a retirement facility in Lynchburg, VA. While there we toured the Museum, the grounds, ate lunch, and shopped at local artisan stands just outside the mission gates.



Team members were very moved by the visit to LCJ, by the visit to the Earthquake Memorial, during which children living nearby came and asked for water or other items from us, and by the experience at Food for the Poor. Our team was diverse, but we bonded well, also with the Dixons, and that bonding was also very moving for participants.



The ubiquitous tap-taps reminded us, with their bright colors and religious verses and quotes, of the joy which still resides in the people of Haiti. They may be poor financially, or as measured by US standards, but they are rich in spirit.