

Team Members

Pastor Andy Hagen, Steve Dingle, Ryan Dingle, John Nusbickel, Wendy Nusbickel, Alex Nusbickel, Amy Garaycochea, Julia Levy, Jens Erickson, Dave Gascoine



First Hello everyone and thanks for opening the doors for me to Hope House and The Village of Hope. To tell you the truth I was a little cautious about the trip and taken back by all the preparation to go to Haiti. Shots, Water precautions, the weather and oh yeah going to a third world country. But here we go.

The afternoon of May 18th.

Arrival at the airport went very well, Andy herded the cats, the mission team, quite well. Rob was there to help us through the

crowd of folks. Into the vehicles and off we go to Hope House. Nothing can explain the first look at Haiti except what can I do to help. Really?? Me help?? Really ?? Yeah I was very overwhelming and somewhat confused.

When we got to hope house we are greeted by Trish and Debbie. “Here is how we have set up your rooms. Come have a little lunch. Andy adds, “We will go over our upcoming days and start to get organized for Bible school.”

Rob explained that he would like to get the ceiling in one of the rooms replaced while we were there. “It needs to come down. Here is the lumber that I figure would be used to replace the ceiling. Basically we need you to tear out the old drop ceiling and replace it with a wood ceiling which would be far more durable in Haiti. You can start whenever you guys are ready.”

Ahhh. Well let’s say John, Steve, Ryan, Jens and myself went back to the room and by dinner time we were done! “Rob...Where is the paint and what else you got? “



May 19th Village of Hope Bible school with the 1st and 2nd grade classes.



A scary Day One for me. Children ? Let me explain, never had children. Only been around little ones when my friends had their grandbabies. Yep Oh No! After chapel I was a little more relaxed. The 1st and 2nd graders were adorable. They can sing very loud when asked. The mission team learned a song to sing to them in Creole. Did a play about the Good Samaritan and a very cool craft exercise that Andy came up with. Could not help but watch them learn to paint with water colors. They just absorbed everything that was said. Thanks Andy, Trish, Rob and our interpreters. Rob later took Steve and me around the school. "This is our plan.

Here are things we need to do and here are some things I would like to do," he said. As we finished our tour, the rest of the team had finished the crafts with the kids and we had lunch.

While eating lunch with the children I got a chance to see what everyone was doing at Village of Hope. The teachers, principle, staff were all working toward the same goal. All efforts were for the same result. If we can make it better for the children they will be able to contribute in the future for a better Haiti.

When we returned to Hope House Steve and I got together a list for Rob. We reviewed what was in the shop. The next thing I hear is a table saw. Jon and Jens are cutting the material for the ceiling trim. "Yeah we can knock it out tomorrow." That night after dinner and our devotional we exchanged why we were on this mission trip. Trish and Rob gave their testimony on their prayers to do their mission. Debbie shared about starting a whole new life there. Everyone really ended up saying the same thing "Their Love for God had directed them there. Haiti a place that needed all the love, help and every minute that we could spare."

May 20th Village of Hope Bible school with 3rd and 4th grade and Hope House repairs.

Part of the team went to the school to do the songs that had been prepared, do the play about the Good Samaritan and the crafts that they had set up at Hope house the night before. At Hope House another group painted the ceiling of the first room, moved John and Wendy's stuff out of the room two so we could get the second ceiling done. By the time the Village of Hope team got back we were done with the second room and the furniture was back for Wendy and John. That evening before dinner a few folks got back into sorting out the medical supplies while we prepared for the third room's ceiling.

After dinner that evening we had our devotional led by Amy. She had never led a group devotional before so she was a little shy at first. I learned again that God has a special surprise for every one of us. Yes Amy led us like a pro. No shyness in that lady. What a wonderful message. Almost forgot. Ryan Dingle. What a young man. Here on a mission trip to celebrate his 14th birthday. Full of "Wow all these experiences are so cool, I never expected. I learned so much." Yeah his dad Steve never stopped smiling.

May 21st Village of hope Bible school with 5th and 6th grade.

I was really looking forward to this day. These kids have been through so much. How are they going to except us and our efforts today? Andy and the students started out with several songs that they knew. Yes. just like all the other kids when you ask them to turn up the volume they let it go. The play was hilarious as they are very open and not afraid to

show their feelings. This is even more evident when we do the craft things with them. You can see that they have been through a lot and proud of whom they are.

Wow I can't believe it is Thursday. Only a few more days to be here. Did we get things done? Did we do our best? What else could we have finished? After lunch we went up to the medical center did a tour of the facility and a walked around the grounds to see what might be in the horizon for this wonderful campus.

May 22nd Hope House Get it done day.

Here we go. Room three ceiling. Finish separating medical supplies. We have used up most of Rob's supplies so he needs to go for lumber and other items to finish the room. We divided into three groups. "Goffers, get with Rob and help load up supplies. Movers, help Steve and Ryan move out of their room and start precutting the lumber that we have. Medial supply folks, finish dividing up the last duffle bag and help Debbie get things squared away."

Yes we got it all done. Meds. Ceiling, Steve and Ryan moved back in. Teamwork and Gods direction. Great job everyone. Great Haiti Mission Trip.

Dinner on Friday night was very cool. A lot of reflection and some tears. I guess that is how it is. You finally relax and look around. Who better to be with new friends? You cannot be any closer to God. Your heart is on your sleeve. Tomorrow is Ryan's birthday. Well the ladies did not forget you buddy. A Haiti birthday cake. A card from all your new found friends. Paint on your clothes. A birthday vacation you will remember for quite awhile. Yeah Dad is still smiling. Go Steve.

In closing I would like to say a few things. It is amazing to me that a few people that have never worked together can do amazing things in the most challenging places. We did and learned many things and found one thing in common, in God we are all amazing.

Thank you Debbie, Trish and Rob for inviting us into your lives. What a glorious adventure.

Thank you to our interpreters, what amazing guys. God's blessing on you all.

Thank You to the principle, teachers and staff at Village of Hope. What you do for those kids, God Be with you.

Thank you to the Advent team, six grades of bible school, three ceilings and a new roof. Ladies and gentleman it was my privilege. I was honored to be with you.

Pastor Andy, What can I say buddy. We have come a long way together. Thank You.

May the Lord be with you all and May his peace be with you forever.

Dave Gascoine

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch a VIDEO of our week!