

Haiti Outreach Ministry Meeting Notes
February 10, 2026
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Wright's Back Porch

Attendees: Chris Livaudais, Chuck Manning, Mike McDonnell, Bud Fennema, Art Wright, Alice Wright, Ginger Parsons, Kenol Saint-Forte, Brenda Popp, Michael Popp, Suzanne Printy, Tom Fackender

Review of current programs

We reviewed reports concerning the goat, cow, poultry, chicken feed and marriage programs.

As of the January report, 161 parish families are now participating in the goat program with a total of 265 live goats. Seventy-nine families have returned a female goat to the program. Eighty-four families now have multiple goats, including ten families with as many as five goats. There are currently 104 families on the wait list for a goat.

Ten parish families have received a cow following training from the funds we provided to OLPH in July. Four cows are currently pregnant. The gestation time is 9 months.

Approximately 500 broiler chickens are now being produced in each 60 day cycle, resulting in a profit of about \$2,000 each cycle. Profits are currently being reinvested into the poultry and feed business, with the current focus on the construction of a feed storage unit. The first large batch of chicken feed was delivered in late January.

With the ten weddings that were celebrated on December 27th, a total of 36 couples have now been in the Sacramental Marriage Program. Fr. Rousseau proposes an additional 10 couples to be married on December 10, 2026, which will coincide with the 10th anniversary of the founding of the parish.

We also discussed an expected proposal from Fr. Rousseau concerning the purchase of laptop computers for a technology training lab for parish members to acquire computer and technology knowledge and skills.

Ministry balance

Based on a report provided by Elena Vanlandingham, the current Haiti Ministry fund balance is \$5,742. This follows the transmission of \$15,000 to OLPH in July 2025, which Fr. Rousseau opted to use for the cow and chicken feed business. A check for \$3,000 was sent to Jean Bony with Ken Firling in early-February which covers his compensation thru July 2026.

Conversation with Jean Bony

Ken Firling and Fr. Rousseau were unable to join us via Zoom, but we had an extended conversation with Jean Bony, who answered questions from ministry members.

We did make some suggestions concerning more detailed reporting concerning the poultry and

chicken feed programs aimed at reporting any profits realized and how those profits are or will benefit church programs.

Continued support and funding

We agreed to schedule our next Haiti Outreach Ministry meeting once we receive a detailed proposal regarding the computer training lab from Fr. Rousseau. At that point we can discuss a proposed funding level and fundraising strategy.

As an aside, there is a planned meeting of the Good Shepherd International Ministry coordinating group on March 5 to discuss the needs of all parish international outreach efforts (Haiti, Ecuador (Home of the Mother), Congo (Fr. Yangia), Zambia (Fr. Remy) and to develop a proposed fundraising calendar.

Trip to OLPH

While there is expressed interest in visiting OLPH from several ministry members, no plans are currently planned. Traveling within Haiti remains a challenge. Ken Firling had hoped to fly directly from Cap Haitien to Jacmel in early-February, but the arranged flight to Jacmel was cancelled for unexplained reasons, although he was able to find an alternative route. We will continue to monitor flight availability in hopes situation improves in the intermediate future.