



The Link

April 4, 2010

"We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of joy, hope, love and peace. We will become a world-wide church dedicated to the pursuit of peace, reconciliation and healing of the spirit."

He Lives!

On January 12, 2010, Ostone Sainteme, pastor of the Carrefour Sceau d'Eau congregation of the Community of Christ in Haiti arrived at the Petionville church site to meet up with the Mission Center Financial Officer Michel Rosier for a meeting. When the Haiti earthquake hit at 4:53 pm, Michel was in his car heading to that meeting and was running late that day.

Members remember last seeing Brother Ostone on the second floor of the Petionville school building waiting for Michel to arrive.

Since the quake, Brother Ostone had been missing and was thought to have died under the rubble at Petionville. His family had not heard from him since the quake.

When the assessment team was in Haiti in February, we were made aware that Pastor Ostone had lost his life, and that his body was still under the rubble.

Here is what Brother Ostone recounted to us: "I was on the second floor of the school waiting for Pastor Michel when the buildings started to shake and sway. I jumped from the second floor to the ground. I hit my head on cement and I didn't know where I was. The school and the church building were collapsing and there was dust everywhere. I couldn't see anything and I didn't know where I was. I can just remember the large cloud of dust. I started walking through the dust and that's all I remember. I have been in the streets walking for weeks not remembering who I was and I didn't know where I was going. I do remember not being very hungry for days. I believe I was in shock. I think that with all of the dust and the confusion, none of the others saw me leave the church site and they thought I was dead under the rubble. I finally began regaining my senses and remembered where I lived and headed home.

I live in Carrefour which is far away from here. My family was overjoyed to see me and told me that everyone thought I was dead. I had no way to communicate with brother Michel or others, so I set out from my home yesterday to come here today to tell everyone that I was not dead. I am alive. The Lord has blessed me. ***Benit soit Dieu.*** (story continued on back page)

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 10-17, 2010 — World Conference at Independence. Wednesday, April 14, immediately following the adjournment of the business session, there will be a Field Reception in the Independence Chamber of Commerce Building located at 210 West Truman—the corner of Spring and Truman Road. There will be fellowship, light snacks, and special recognitions. For more info go to www.cofchrist.org/WC2010/default.asp

June 30-July 4, 2010 Family Camp, will be at Lake Doniphan. Steve and Cathi Cackler-Veazey will be our guest ministers. All of the lodge rooms and mini-lodge rooms are full; however, there are plenty of cabins and RVs spaces left. We hope you will make Family Camp part of your summer experience. Send your registration form and a \$100 deposit to PO Box 350, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

Volunteers Needed to help the Laurel Club serve meals during World Conference—Call 816-833-1000 ext 1150 and leave your name and number. Young people (16 and over) are also needed to help with dishwashing.

SUMMER CAMP DATES

Children's Camp — June 4-6, Grades K, 1, 2, Camp Far Westa, Directors: Anita Norman and Meredith Jeschke; Cost: \$60 by May 11, \$85 after.

Sr. High Camp — July 5-8, Grades 9, 10, 11, 12, Camp Far Westa, Camp Directors, Steve and Janet Muse, Cost: \$130 by June 13, \$155 after.

Spectacular — July 24-31, Grades 10, 11, 12, Graceland University, Anita Norman, Delegation Leader, Cost: \$360 by June 24, \$535 after.

Junior Camp — August 2-6, Grades 3, 4, 5, Camp Far Westa, Camp Director, Heather Brooner, Cost: \$130 by July 7, \$155 after.

Jr. High Camp — August 2-6, Grades 6, 7, 8, Camp Far Westa, Camp Director, Kyle Jeschke, Cost: \$130 by July 7, \$155 after.

Special Invitation

**Central Missouri Mission Center Conference
May 2, 2010, 3 pm
Warrensburg Church**

Agenda:

Approval of November 7, 2009 Mission Center Conference Minutes
Roll Call of Congregations
Receiving of Reports – Officers
Presentation of 2009 Auditor's Report for Adoption
Report of the 2009 Camping Endowment Fund
Report on Wintermeyer Fund
Recognitions
Presentation of Attendance Award
Adjourn Business until Saturday, November 6, 2010
Presentation – "Reach Out with Compassion"

Hope to see you there!

A special invitation is extended to all to attend the May 2 Mission Center conference. We will gather at 3 PM at the Warrensburg Church for fellowship, business, worship, and a presentation.

Mark Euritt, Caribbean Mission Center President and Assistant to Rick Maupin, our Field Apostle, will be with us for this conference.

Please plan to attend the conference and invite others from your congregation to attend so you take the traveling banner back to your home congregation.

Claude M. Rains, Jr., President, Central Missouri Mission Center

(He Lives! Continued from front page)

On Thursday, March 11, Brother Daniel Dime was sitting at the gates of the Petionville site, sitting as he normally does protecting the rubble of the church and school from outside scavengers. Up the driveway to the church came a man. Brother Daniel could not believe his eyes. It appeared to be Brother Ostone walking towards him.

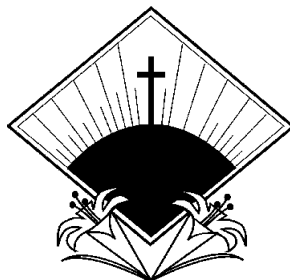
Brother Daniel said to me as I interviewed him: "I could not believe my eyes, I yelled to the others to come, I began touching him all over to see if he was real and when the others arrived around us, I lifted him up over my head rejoicing. Most of the others thought it was a dream. We yelled, Praise the Lord, our brother has come back."

As Michel Rosier and I received the call that morning March 11, about the miraculous news, we drove immediately to the Petionville site to speak with our brother that had been found.

(story as told to Steve Graffeo, Haiti assessment team 3-11-10)

*Members of our mission center have donated \$15,333
to the oblation fund for relief, recovery, and rebuilding in Haiti.
These monies will be disbursed directly to our members and their
congregations in Haiti by the Presiding Bishopric at church headquarters.
The oblation fund has received over \$700,000 for Haiti to date!*

Sr. High Weekend Event—June 11-13 (11 a.m. Friday-5 p.m. Sunday)
come and enjoy the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks in the Camdenton area while praising the Lord with hundreds of other youth at the Crossover Music Festival. Go to www.crossovermusicfestival.com to see the list of speakers and bands . Contact your Youth Leader for more information. Cost is \$50.00 which includes tickets to festival both days and food. You will need money for snacks and merchandise at the concert. Families of the Camdenton Congregation will host our youth. We will attend the Camdenton Church on Sunday morning.



Happy Easter