



Tom & Ginger Schmidt

with JoHanna, Joshua & Jeremy

Serving the Lord
in Haiti



Schmidt Family 1987

**30th Anniversary of
The Schmidt Family Ministry in Haiti!**

March 1985 - March 2015 and still going!

Shiloh Children's Home is reaching out to the community!

In March we had our first Bible Conference in Carabal, at the closest church, about a mile down the path from SCH. There were 2 Haitian Pastors and a Seminary student preaching Saturday & Sunday. The Jesus film was shown Saturday night outside in the church yard. There was a capacity crowd of approximately 350+ very enthusiastic participants! Many had never before heard the story of Jesus (as told in the book of Luke). Those who knew the biblical account recited passages along with the film! It was an exciting time for all to see and hear the truth of Scripture brought to the community in living color! No one wanted to leave when it was over so the Pastor gladly stayed to answer questions.



On Sunday Creole Bibles were given to 40 families who did not own a Bible; which was a great blessing and encouragement to those Christians. A meal was also provided Sunday afternoon. It was a blessed time for all who attended the conference and a great outreach to a larger than expected crowd coming out to see the Jesus Film!

We praise the Lord for all who helped, through donations and prayer, making our first Evangelistic Outreach to the community so successful!

We are looking forward to the Geological Survey, which will tell us if there is water in the area. This will be scheduled for April or May, Lord willing! Many thanks to the generous donations that have totally covered this expense! Please pray they will find water near SCH! This will be a huge blessing not only to SCH, but to the community as well!



Jason



Caleb



Maurice

Jason, Caleb and Maurice are growing and learning some new skills, which is exciting for us to see! Jason is doing a lot more walking around and Maurice is learning to point to objects and people as the staff quizzes him on what's what and who's who! Caleb is holding his own. We would like to do more for him in the way of Physical Therapy. Please pray we can get information that will help us find exercises more suited to his needs.

We are praying about the possibility of a group coming in June to give our staff a week off. This is a great opportunity to bless and encourage those who work so hard to love and help these precious boys reach their full potential! Please let us know if this is something you would like to consider. It is not an easy life in rural Haiti, but such a blessing to be able to share the love of Jesus with SCH children, staff and community.

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support of this outreach to those who cannot help themselves.

SHILOH CHILDREN'S HOME

The Schmidt Family in Haiti

April 2015



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN HAITI ...and still going strong!



The Schmidt Family - 1987

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JASON



MAURICE



CALEB

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P.S. On a personal note, we are excited to announce the birth of our 24th Grandchild, Jeweliana Marguerite Canova, born to Becky & Joe, March 12, 2015. She joins 4 doting brothers, weighing in at 8lbs 5oz and 20" long! We are so grateful to the Lord for this new Blessing added to our family!



In Christ's love and service, Tom & Ginger, JoHannah, Jeremy & Joshua

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We are Praising the LORD, our long awaited water survey test was done in May! What an exciting time! They spent 2 1/2 days checking for water everywhere within a 4-5 mile radius from Shiloh Children's Home. They checked wells and springs to determine where the water comes from and how reliable a source it is. Many of the nearer wells (w/in a mile or 2) have run dry this year which has caused a great deal of extra hardship for the local people as well as our own staff. The three surveyors even checked rock formations for any potential of water. Most of their time, however, was spent putting these electrodes in the ground and in the air above the ground (under tents @ 1/2 - 1km away). They had sensors that would record timed electrical impulses sent simultaneously to the ground & air which graphed out a picture that must be interpreted by computer to determine whether water is to be found in that area at all. It was quite an interesting process that brought many onlookers young and old, all offering their 'expert' advice! Now we wait for the results, which will take another few weeks. We continue to pray for the possibility of a well in this area; that would bless so many.

Rainy season started the beginning of MAY which is a blessing as it fills the cisterns; but also adds the complication of slippery roads and therefore harder travels in the remote areas. But the SCH children are doing well and our new porch is such a blessing! They can be outside rain or shine and enjoy it so much! Jason loves to walk out there all by himself and Maurice can now travel on his own 2 knees! His legs are not strong enough for him to walk as yet, but he is able to 'walk' on his knees which gives him much pleasure! Caleb also loves to be on the porch when he can be brought out.

I recently found an especially fun activity for Jason and Maurice. The LORD gave me the idea to take both boys for a ride in the SCH truck. Maurice was enthralled and watched all my movements. It wasn't long before he was reaching over to help me steer and shift; giggling all the time! Jason had a grin from ear to ear and was very happy. Both boys thought the horn honking was the funniest thing they'd ever heard! Such a small thing to bring so much delight to two little boys. This will definitely become a coveted prize at SCH. And we'll see if Caleb will be able to enjoy this as well, next time.

Thank you for your prayers and financial gifts which sustain us as we continue to serve the LORD at Shiloh Children's Home in Carabal, Haiti.





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Shiloh Children's Home children are happy and healthy, Praise the LORD!

Jason's had a fun summer practicing walking and even a little "running" with his kids-size soccer ball! He turned 10 in July!

Maurice is six and has been working hard pulling himself up and focusing to move his legs while hanging onto a person or walker. He's also having fun learning to speak some new words: mama, papa, all the workers names, ball, cup, numbers & letters, etc! He and Jason got to have a 'hilarious' time in SCH truck driving around the area, honking the horn, laughing hysterically! Maurice even copied Papa Tom shifting by pulling it out of gear many times! Maybe Caleb can go next time, with a helper/holder.

Caleb is nine and is making progress. He loves Papa Tom, smiling and turning towards him whenever he comes in their room. We would like to get him a regular riding schedule on the neighboring donkey as we've been told that can be excellent therapy for all the SCH children!



Jason walking



Maurice with Papa Tom



Caleb

We had our geological survey done this spring and just recently got the results. The team came and checked many spots around SCH and the surrounding areas. They worked hard to try and find a source of water for us, but they found only a slim possibility of a poor water source at 900'. So we are now focusing efforts on collecting water in a large cistern. We could make a 10-15,000 gallon cement holding tank, above ground, it would solve much of the water needs and the surface would double as a mud-free area for washing & hanging laundry. Please pray with us concerning the funds for this and wisdom as to exactly how big to make it most effective for SCH needs. To GOD be the GLORY!!!

These two photos are just examples of what the cistern would look like.





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Christmas is a special time for many in Haiti! Haitian Christians celebrate by rising very early for worship services to celebrate the greatest gift to mankind: our Savior, Jesus Christ! In some cities and rural villages throughout the country one devout believer will leave their little home at 3-4 AM and walk to the home of the next closest parishioner, singing Christmas Carols along the way. They continue on, serenading and adding members until they all reach the church. They then have a 2-3hr worship service (before the work day begins) praising GOD for his Mercy and Grace in their lives! This will go on for several days or more! until Christmas Day. It is very exciting and refreshing to be a part of such sincere 'Christ worship' that is heartfelt and not connected to any sort of holiday materialism.

At Shiloh Children's Home the children feel loved and cherished every day! Still they do get a special meal on Christmas Day with extra treats, which they truly enjoy!

Our greatest need continues to be getting water for the Home. Tom will be going down with our son, Joshua, in January for three weeks. We will work on upkeep of the building as well as replacing gutters and adding another cistern. This is necessary since the geological survey showed that drilling a well in our zone would be a wasted effort.

Our goal, Lord willing, in 2016 will include constructing a large cistern to hold enough rain water to meet the needs of SCH during the dry season. If possible we even hope to have extra water, that we can filter, to sell (for a very modest price) to the community. That would not only bless the community, but would provide a little extra money for fresh fruits & vegetables for SCH; a constant need.

May the LORD bless YOU each day as you Live for HIM!

