

May 18, 2017, 4:42 PM

AMERICAN BAPTIST HAITIAN CAUCUS

2016-2017I FINANCIAL REPORT

Rev. Dr. Edgard Nicolas, President

**INCOME**

ABC/USA .....	\$8,000.00
HAITIAN CAUCUS FUND RAISING.....	\$4,000.00
TOTAL INCOME .....	\$12,000.00

**EXPENSES**

ANNUAL GATHERING AT MASSACHUSETTS

TRAVEL /TRANSPORTATION.....	\$1,300.00
LODGING .....	\$1,150.00
MEALS .....	\$ 625.00
HONORARIUM.....	\$ 625.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES .....	\$ 150.00
TOTAL:.....	\$3,850.00

BIENNIAL 2017 AND SPRING MEETING AT CAMP LIEBENZELL, NEW JERSEY

TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION .....	\$1,100.00
LODGING .....	\$ 581.00
MEALS .....	\$675.00
HONORARIUM.....	\$675.00
SCHOOL SUPPORT .....	\$500.00
ABCNJ TIJUANA MISSION .....	\$4,000.00
TOTAL: .....	\$7,531.00

INCOME:..... \$12,000.00

EXPENSES: ..... \$ 11,381.00

ENDING BALANCE.....\$ 619.00

AMERICAN BAPTIST HAITIAN CAUCUS  
2016 Activities Report  
Rev. Dr. Edgard Nicolas, President

HAITIAN REFUGEES

On October 28, 2016 Rev. Lee B. Spitzer, American Baptist Churches of New Jersey, Executive Minister and regional Sr. Pastor, sent me a text message to inform me of the plight of Haitians stuck at the Mexican-US border. Dr Spitzer stated that IM missionaries have asked him to share this information with Haitian churches some people might be interested in this. Rev. Tim Long, IM missionary reported: "In Tijuana six of our Baptist churches are now serving as shelters with over 280. Migrants ( mainly Haitians) staying in their facilities as they wait to enter the USA. It is a Long and complicated story. Most come from South America." The Haitian Caucus Together with the ABCNJ region had sent two Haitian delegates to assess the situation.

The purpose of this mission was to find out what are the most pressing needs of the Haitian refugees who are currently located in Tijuana , Mexico. Also to assess the living conditions such as: shelter, medical needs and the immigration process for those who are awaiting entry into the United States.

Rev. Long was wondering if some of our Haitian congregations would be willing to help out with this ministry among the Haitians in Tijuana. There are literally thousands of Haitians in Tijuana and Mexicali. Many more are expected. Rev. Dieudonne Merinvil together with Junia Nicolas both members of the Haitian Baptist Church at the Crossroads in Newark were sent to Tijuana, Mexico from December 5 to December 12, 2016 as Haitian Caucus representatives. They visited all six shelters. There are as followed:

1. IGLESIA JESUCHRISTO VIVE, Rev. Walter Marquez Tirado, Pastor Number of Haitian refugees: 40 people; 23 Men, 12 Women, 5 Children; 1 Toilet for Men and 1 Toilet for Women, and none for Children
2. IGLESIA BAUTISTA EMMANUEL, Rev. Leon Franco Curial  
95 people which include: 53 Men, 37 Women, and 5 Children; Almost total absence of the Toilet
3. IGLESIA BAUTISTA DEL TIJUANA, Rev. Juan Manuel Serrano Nunez, Pastor  
110 People including: 68 Men, 37 Women, 5 Children' 2 Toilets; 1 for Men and 1 for Women, none for Children
4. IGLESIA BAUTISTA EL CALVARIO, Rev. Gamaliel Lopez Santos, Pastor  
83 People including: 54 Men, 22 Women, and 7 Children; 1 Toilet for Men and 1 Women, none for Children
5. IGLESIA BAUTISTA EL CALVARIO, Rev. Jose Altamierno, Pastor  
48 People including: 27 Men, 17 Women, and 4 Children; 1 Toilet for Men and 1 for Women, none for Children
6. IGLESIA VIDA ETERNA, Rev. Leopoldo Perez, Pastor  
105 People including: 63 Men, 35 Women, and 7 Children; 1 Toilet for Men and 1 for Women, none for Children

These shelters were not equipped neither ready nor spacious enough to host these great numbers of refugees. Each shelter may slightly be different from each other but in general all have the same common needs such as: kitchen stove, bathrooms, dormitories, daily meals, utilities, medical care, transportation etc... Besides the material needs I have mentioned, Rev. Tim Long also suggested Pastoral leadership is a must for these new Haitian church start. The Haitian Caucus invited the IM, missionary, Tim to come participate and to share with us about the current information on the Haitian living in Tijuana, Mexico. Tim long came to New Jersey on April 29. He preached at the Haitian

Crossroads Church in the morning on Sunday morning April 30th, preached at the evening rally and returned to Mexico May 1st, 2017. We collected \$5,000.00 at the rally that evening. After covering his travel expenses a check of \$4,000.00 were submitted to ABCNJ region to support the Haitian refugees in Tijuana.

#### ANNUAL GATHERING

Our Annual session was held on November 25th and 26th, 2016 at First Baptist Church of Winchester located at 90 Mount Vernon Street, Winchester, MA 01890. The theme was: UNITY IN DIVERSITY  
TEXT: 1 Cor. 12:12 "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." We started on Friday evening with our guest speaker from Haitian Baptist Convention, president, Rev. Pierre Michel Julien. The Bible study on Saturday morning was conducted by: Rev. Dr. Mary Day Miller, Executive Minister of Massachusetts followed by different workshops such as : Rev. Dr. Kenslio Ojentis, Asst Pastor from Eglise Baptiste de la Nouvelle Jerusalem, Facilitator of the Youth's Group, Rev. Dr Lee B. Spitzer, Executive Minister and Regional Pastor for America Baptist Churches of New Jersey, Facilitator for the Pastoral Corps. Rev. Eugene Gedeon, Haitian Baptist Convention's Consultant from Haiti, Facilitator of Men Ministry, Rev. Dr. Esther Saint Louis, Facilitator of the Women Ministry, Minister Vena Ulysse, Facilitator of Young Adult Women Ministry

#### A DAY OF PRAYER

January 7th, 2017 was the day we, members of the Haitian Caucus have met together to pray for our denomination, churches and their leaders, governments, and families. It was held at the Haitian Baptist Church at the Crossroads in Newark , New Jersey.

#### LEADERSHIP RETREAT

MARCH 17 to March 19, 2017 the leadership retreat was held at LIEBENZELL, New Jersey with this Theme: 2 Chronicles 14:4 "SEEK THE LORD GOD AND DO THE LAW AND COMMANDMENTS." We had an attendance of: 12 Pastors, 25 church leaders representing the following regions such as: Florida, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey.

#### WORKSHOP ON IMMIGRATION

In a combined effort between The American Baptist Churches of New Jersey, Essex Cluster Association and the Catholic community Services, a workshop was conducted to address the immigration issue that causes fear and panic within the Haitian community. In our Haitian churches people are very concerned about changes on refugee status. Mr. Pierre Moreau, an immigration Attorney and now serving as Catholic Community Services and consultant came and gave us legal advice which I believe can bring some appeasement to concerned people.

#### NEW HAITIAN CHURCHES IN FLORIDA

Eight Haitian churches have joined ABCNJ. Last September the Florida Pastors came to New Jersey to participate at the ABCNJ's Annual Session accompanied with two church officers. They were all excited to be part of the ABC family. They are located in different location areas. They are in Miami, West Palm Beach, and Fort Lauderdale. Florida Pastors and congregation have requested a follow up visit from the Haitian Caucus to inform them of their role within the denomination as Haitians and how can they be helpful to the ABC Family. February 23 to 26, 2017 we took a trip to Florida where we had a wonderful meeting with Pastors and church officers on Friday evening. Another meeting took place also on Saturday. Visited and preached in two churches.

AMERICAN BAPTIST HAITIAN CAUCUS  
2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

PROJECTED : INCOME

FUND RAISING

(Scholarship fund	\$ 1,000.00	
(Special Project	1,890.00	
American Baptist Churches USA	8,000.00	
TOTAL		\$10,890.00

PROJECTED EXPENSES

Spring Meeting/Executive Meeting-CAMP LIEBENZELL

Travel/Transportation	\$ 1,800.00	
Lodging	1,600.00	
Meals	750.00	
Scholarship	900.00	
TOTAL	\$ 5,050.00	

Executive Committee Fall Meeting

Travel/Transportation	\$ 1,632.00	
Lodging	1,400.00	
Meals	700.00	
Special Project	1,390.00	
TOTAL	\$ 5,122.00	

Regional Caucus

Telephone	\$ 150.00	
Mailing	220.00	
Office Supplies	200.00	
Miscellaneous	148.00	
TOTAL	\$ 718.00	

TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES		\$ 10890.00
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