



EYE ON JUSTICE

February 2010

Vol. 11 ISSUE 1

**SISTERS AND ASSOCIATES
ST. JOSEPH OF LYON/ WINSLOW**

“FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD”

A YOUNG HAITIAN SPEAKS OUT

Hi! My name is Zacherie Hurd. I have a story to tell. I have never been more hurt, depressed or disappointed in my life. This message is for the struggling people of Haiti. Haiti needs a helping hand. But we sometimes are too skeptical to help, for fear we will be the ones left holding the burden. Please just this once go out of your way to lend Haiti a helping hand. I mean whether its an old pair of pants or a couple of bucks just do anything because they are turning to us now. I know the hardship. I was a four year old kid left to raise two kids. Forced to sleep on the ground in cardboard boxes was hell. Digging in the trash for whatever scraps we could find was not easy. Sometimes we would puke night and day from lack of food. My siblings would cry, hoping and wishing for the help of a stranger, thinking the hell would be over, but it had only started. Can you imagine looking your child in the eye when he or she asks with those sad eyes and begging “please I am so hungry”. Then answering them, “I have no food for you”. Then we came to America. Only three of us came the four that remained in Haiti are commemorated in my heart. I only dream of seeing them again to tell them they are free of struggles, pain and hell. But most people live in their bubbles and have no time to deal with anything that is not concerning them. Like the music group the Common Market says "Yeah I got needs, but above those are standards so I ain't always trying to do exactly what the next man does...." They also say that he was born that way, but they can't imagine having to go on that way. Maybe if you pray for him he'll be drawn from the fray. Or maybe what? Maybe he's ok.” I pray 95 percent of you will read this message and open your hearts to the people of Haiti.

(Zacherie is the adopted grandson of Bob and Nancy Hurd)

**JUSTICE AND PEACE TEAM : Robert & Nancy Hurd, David & Janice
Champion, Patricia Hackett, Claire Lepage, csj**

FAITH REFORM IN HEALTH CARE

Fifty-six national and state faith organizations sent a letter to Congress strongly urging members to show political courage, vision, leadership and faith, and *to take heart and move meaningful healthcare reform forward.*

Faith communities have supported health care reform for decades, and have offered vocal support and occasional constructive criticism over the last year. While they individually promote a variety of different policy priorities, they are unified in their belief that health care reform must be completed this year *on behalf of the millions who are left out and left behind in our current health care system.* (Faithful Reform in Health Care)

Couldn't we contribute by calling our representatives in Congress? (Sen. Snow, 1-202-224-5344, Sen. Collins, 1-202-224-2523 and Rep. Michaud, 1-202-225-6306.)

***THE JOY OF CHRISTIAN LIFE CAN BE DIMMED
WHEN WE BECOME ACCOMODATED TO OUR CULTURE.
Sojourner Magazine***

SOLIDARITY WITH HAITI

Over two weeks have passed since the 7.0 magnitude earthquake devastated Haiti. The immediate health crisis has begun to settle into a new phase. This one is perhaps even more daunting: caring for thousands of post-operation trauma patients who are ready to leave the hospital, but lack homes or families to go to. Many will require prosthetic limbs, frequent wound cleanings, bandage changed and months of rehabilitation.

Officials warn of possible outbreaks of infectious diseases from unsanitary conditions in hundreds of makeshift camps of people made homeless by the earthquake. They are wondering where to send patients who have been treated for their injuries but require follow-up care. At the University Hospital in Port-au-Prince the surgeons performed about 225 amputations. Doctors Without Borders estimated that its doctors had performed 125 amputations in 12 centers across the country and hundreds more have been done in other clinics. Even in the best of circumstances, it can take four to six months for a person who has a traumatic amputation to function again. Thousands more will need rehabilitation for a range of injuries, from broken hips and femurs to neurological disorders and head injuries. All the hospitals are full to capacity and they don't have all the necessary medicines they need. Our prayers are certainly with them and those generously serving them.