



# CHALLENGE

OFCB (l'Organisation de la Force Chrétienne de Bayonnais) Newsletter

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## Actionnel's Spring visit to U.S.

It's that time of year again, when we are planning for Actionnel's spring visit to the US. The dates are set for May 3 - 20th. Actionnel is available to preach on three Sundays (May 5, 12, and 19) and for fellowship/teaching opportunities at churches. He will also be available during the week for one on one or small group meetings, as his schedule allows.



The focus for this trip is to continue to work towards the goal of having a 1000 children sponsored. Therefore, priority will be given to events that will have a child sponsorship component. World of God's Child Sponsorship team is happy to provide support for churches in planning and executing successful campaign. If you have questions about setting up a campaign, please contact Alan Palmer at [alanm.palmer99@yahoo.com](mailto:alanm.palmer99@yahoo.com).

We ask that churches and individuals who would like to schedule time with Actionnel fill out our online form by March 31st. You can find the form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/3U4bStXu4QA8917c2>

We plan to host a pastor's lunch and will plan that date once his schedule is set. If you have questions or need information about Actionnel's visit, you can e-mail Eleanor Shell ([eleanor@worldofgod.org](mailto:eleanor@worldofgod.org)).

### Current Environment in Haiti

Inflation has been rampant in Haiti for a long time. In February 2019, demonstrations in Port Au Prince began. Protesters wanted President Moise to resign due to the government's lack of transparency, corruption and ineffective governance. Haitian frustrations were demonstrated by burning cars and buildings, looting, shutting down transportation, and stopping the general workings of the capital.

Although PAP is 108 kilometers away from our beloved Bayonnais, the effects of the demonstration have been far reaching. All three campuses of OFCB have lost instructional days. Road obstructions, such as burning tires, and the increase cost of fuel prevented buses from transporting teachers and students to and from Gonaives. The main campus of OFCB was shut down for almost three weeks and the other two campuses for approximately two weeks. The transportation cost from Bayonnais went from 150 Gourdes to 300 Gourdes. With the devaluation of the Haitian Gourdes, the exchange rate is higher than ever at 85 Gourdes / \$1 US. Traders could not travel to Port au Prince for purchasing nor to L'estere to trade. Therefore they were unable to provide meals for their families. In many cases prices of products have doubled. Even with these economic challenges, most people there have remained in the community of Bayonnais, in lieu of relocating in search of a better life.

Things are calmer now in Haiti. Moise is still the President. It is unlikely he will step down. The wealthy are still wealthy. There is basically no middle class anymore, and the poor get poorer. The people of Bayonnais are moving forward in spite the chaos. The Mobile Clinic continues to be successful with about 12% of patients being pregnant women. The Clinic brought in 42,800 Gourdes (\$538), which is the highest amount since October. The construction of the bridge is moving forward. Programs are being discussed that will bring employment training to the community. The people in Bayonnais and their strong leadership team will continue to take care of each other. May the Lord bless our Haitian friends.

Our scheduled trip to Bayonnais departing Charlotte on March 27 is on. We hope to bring you more news and photos from this visit in the next Challenge newsletter.