

## **Dr. Anne Livingston**

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"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful." (Colossians 3:15)

Someone asked me if these visits to churches and individual supporters are a victory lap. My reply was that it is a gratitude tour. It has been a blessing to share with these people what we have done together in medical ministry in northern Haiti through the years.

I have traveled more than 2000 miles since the beginning of April, giving me lots of time to think while driving. I would like to share some of the things that have made me thankful to God.

- —Safety on the interstate highways is a big cause for thanks. High-speed drivers weaving in and out of traffic can definitely be unsettling! I am thankful for a reliable vehicle. Any needed repairs, e.g., replacing a cracked windshield, could wait and be done after I returned home.
- —Churches and individuals have generously provided comfortable places to stay, often for several days. I was able to do needed work and have time for rest. The many miles of travel have shown what a blessing that is. It has been encouraging to have invitations to come back and stay if I should be in the area.
- —Those extra days made it possible to spend more time with church members in informal settings. I know many of these people better now than in the past when there was little time to stay and visit.
- —These trips were not about getting gifts from churches, but it has been a blessing to receive them. Some churches have collected and given gift cards, which are big blessings in small packages.
- —The best part of the travels is the people, fellow believers who have been faithful in prayer, encouragement, and support. I have known some of these people for years, and it was sweet to pick up where we left off on the last visit. I met others for the first time, but we talked as though we were part of a happy family, which we are in Jesus Christ. One couple and I met for lunch, smiled at the changes over the years, and commented that the next time we meet may be in Heaven.

News came as I was starting this letter that missionaries Davy and Natalie Lloyd were killed in Portau-Prince late Thursday by a gang, shortly after being attacked by another gang. We know God is sovereign and this event is in His will, but this is a time we need to trust Him through our tears.

A gospel song came to mind as I thought about God finally bringing all His family together.

"There is going to be a meeting in the air In that sweet, sweet by and by... And God's own son will be the leading one At that meeting in the air."

We have an amazing family reunion ahead, made possible by our Savior's death for our sin and His resurrection from the dead. There will be no more sin, death, disease, pain, sorrow, tears, or separation from God or each other forever. Even so, come Lord Jesus!

In our Lord's service,

Dr. anne