Hope for Haiti
Education, Fun and Fundraising Resources for Congregations
INTRODUCTION

This packet of resources is designed to assist groups in learning about Haiti, especially the Episcopal Church in Haiti, and to inspire congregations to help raise funds to start the process of rebuilding churches of the Diocese of Haiti. It can be used for the 2011-2012 church-wide fundraising effort and/or it can be used over the coming years when our congregations will need to continue to assist the Diocese of Haiti in rebuilding.

This packet provides an assortment of resources. Some of them are activities you can use in liturgy; some are for Sunday school, youth or adult education groups. Some are intergenerational and some can be used to invite members of your community to join you. Some are for specific seasons or events (the anniversary of the earthquake); others can be used any time. This “Rebuild Our Church in Haiti” fundraising effort extends from 2011 into 2012 – but the work will not end then. That is merely a focused time to get a jump start on what is needed to start rebuilding the institutions of the diocese. We will need to raise much more than that over the coming years, but the hope is that we can get started quickly and that this packet of materials will give you some ideas and ways to join the effort – both immediately and for years to come.

Published by LeaderResources

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The tap-tap bus drawing is by Hans Teensma

The brick template is by and courtesy of Ruthann Logsdon Zaroff of Mirkwood Designs
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Come back to the website and download the updated version of this program later - additional materials (like the lesson on Water) may be added over time. Also, feel free to submit lessons, fundraising ideas or other materials you feel would be useful additions. We are happy to consider your materials for inclusion.

Updated 1/711
SESSION OUTLINE

Most sessions follow a similar outline:

1. **PREPARE**
   - A list of supplies, equipment, etc. needed for the session

2. **GATHER**
   - Suggestions on how to start

3. **LEARN**
   - Something to learn

4. **ACTIVITY**
   - A craft or activity

5. **ACT**
   - What to do about it

6. **CLOSE**
   - A closing activity and/or prayer

**Handouts** you can duplicate and distribute to participants
ABOUT THE DIOCESE OF HAITI

The Diocese of Haiti is the largest diocese in the Episcopal Church with 90,000 Episcopalians in Haiti, served by thirty priests. In addition to churches, the diocese has provided national leadership in the areas of health care, education and development. It has also served as Haiti’s cultural center, housing the music school, the nation’s orchestra as well as many of the nation’s artists who sold their works through the Cathedral shop. Much of this capacity to lead and serve has been destroyed by the 2010 earthquake. While the gifts, skills and ministries of the people who survived are intact, the infrastructure that enables them to carry out those ministries effectively have been damaged or destroyed.

“Rebuild our Church in Haiti” is the first phase of the rebuilding process as it will take more than these initial funds to restore the diocese and its institutions. The initial focus will be on the Port-au-Prince complex that serves as the center of the diocese as much of its administrative and educational work is housed here. Rebuilding it quickly will not only enable the diocese to carry out its ministry effectively, it will also be a beacon of hope in the nation which has always looked to the Episcopal Church for education, development and cultural leadership.

The core institutions to be rebuilt in Port-au-Prince include:

- The Diocesan Center including administrative offices and meeting space
- The Bishopstead – home for the bishop
- Holy Trinity Cathedral known for its interior murals painted by some of the best-known Haitian painters of the twentieth century.
- Holy Trinity School, adjacent to the Cathedral, was originally founded as a school for girls in 1913. Today, there are 1200 boys and girls. There is also a Trade School with 800 students and a music school.
- Holy Trinity Music School, which had hundreds of students of all ages and economic means, houses the Holy Trinity Philharmonic Orchestra (which is essentially the national orchestra) and the famed boy’s choir.
- College St. Pierre, the Church’s secondary school in Port-au-Prince, has an enrollment of 700. This school and the diocese have taken an important role in preserving and propagating the artistic heritage of Haiti. A museum, across the street from the school, housed a permanent collection of Haitian art and a shop which provided income for Haitian artists as well as the church.
- St. Vincent’s School for the Handicapped, the first school and medical facility in Haiti that services over 350 handicapped children, 150 of whom live at the school. The school included administrative offices, sixteen classrooms and a music area, a medical clinic and operating room, an eye clinic, a dental clinic, a brace shop, cooking and dining facilities, and a guest facility for visiting volunteers and dormitories for children and staff.
- Foyer Notre Dame, a home for elderly, indigent persons that includes terminal care and burial and the adjacent Foyer Notre Dame Guest House
which not only provides guests with a temporary and comfortable place to stay, but also is a source of income for the Foyer residents.

- The convent of the Sisters of St. Margaret who manage the Foyer Notre Dame and work at the schools in the Cathedral complex.

This, of course, does not include the churches and institutions located outside of Port-au-Prince. And in addition to rebuilding physical structures, the diocese needs funds to sustain its life and ministry. Clergy, medical staff, teachers, and others who provide the services and ministries for the diocese, need salaries and in some cases, equipment, furniture and supplies to enable them to work. Many are now working for minimal wages, no benefits, with little proper equipment and in temporary structures or tents. Vehicles and equipment need to be purchased or repaired and maintained. Expertise is needed to ensure that what is built is earthquake-safe, energy-efficient and, wherever possible, can serve as a model of sustainable, green construction. The diocese also needs funds to enable it to hone its strategic plans to take into consideration the changes that the earthquake has created in Haiti and to ensure that what it restores or builds will be most effective for the future of the nation and the church’s ministry.

While the initial work will focus on the diocesan center, the Cathedral and the various schools and institutions located there, there is also significant work that needs to be done in churches in the capital and surrounding area. Besides the Cathedral and five churches in the area of the capital, there are 88 missions scattered throughout the country. Most of these churches include primary schools, and many have medical facilities.

The diocese has 46 Pre-schools, 46 Primary schools, over 20 secondary schools, the first special school for handicapped children Haiti, a music school, vocational schools, one school of agriculture and a university. There are trade schools at Darbonne and Cap Haitian in addition to the one at Holy Trinity, agricultural schools at Terrier Rouge and Merger, and a theological seminary at Montrouis. The Episcopal Church also runs Holy Cross Hospital in Leogane, which has assumed responsibility for all health care in its region through a network of village health workers, midwives, and mobile clinics. The diocese has established 15 health centers around the country and a school of nursing. The second reconstruction phase will assist the diocese in rebuilding the various institutions damaged or destroyed by the earthquake.
REBUILD MY TEMPLE
BUILDING BRICKS FOR HAITI

You will need:
- Cardstock
- Many copies of the brick template on the cardstock!
- Your choice of coloring mediums: crayons, water paints, markers
- Pictures of Haitian art if you plan to encourage them to use those colors and images
- Scissors & glue
- Rubber stamps (optional)
- Stickers (optional)
- One or two sample bricks prepared ahead of time

This lesson can be done with older children, youth or adults. With younger participants, you may want to get rubber stamps of birds, flowers, etc. or stickers to make the decorating easier. Youth and adults can do their own decorations.

Set up art supplies and your sample brick on a table. Gather participants in another part of the room (or another room) in a circle. You will begin by learning about the Jews who were sent from exile to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. Adapt the material to fit the age of your participants.

Explain that the Cathedral in Haiti was destroyed by an earthquake – along with almost everything else in the city! We want to help the Diocese of Haiti rebuild the Cathedral and schools that were part of the Cathedral complex. There are many other times in our history when we have been called to rebuild churches or, in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), the Temple.

Ask:
- Where was the Temple? (Jerusalem)
- What did it mean to the Jews….why was it important to them? (It was where the Ark of the Covenant, i.e., Ten Commandments, were kept and was where they felt God was most present.)
- What can you remember about the Temple in the Bible? (children might recall the story of Jesus being in the temple at age 12; adults might remember more of the stories about the rise and fall of the temple)
- Who built the first temple? (Solomon – or rather, his people built it)
Tell them that today you will learn about what happened to the temple after Solomon built it. Ask if anyone knows the story….if not tell it in your own words:

When the people asked God for a king, the first king was Saul, followed by David and then his son, Solomon. King David brought together many of the tribes of the Jewish people and established “the City of David” – Jerusalem – as his capital. He brought the Ark of the Covenant (which contained the tablets of stone on which the ten commandments were inscribed) which was housed in a “tabernacle” (tent) to Jerusalem and planned to build a glorious temple for it. But God told him he was not permitted to build the temple; that task fell to Solomon (which is why it is known as “Solomon’s Temple”).

The temple served as the central place of worship for the people of Judah for over 300 years. Then, in the various wars over lands in the area, the Temple was first plundered by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar, in about 598 BCE (2 Kings 24:13). A few years later, in 587, the Babylonians attacked Jerusalem again and this time burned the Temple along with most of the city (2 Kings 25). King Zedekiah was blinded, and taken to Babylon, together with many others, especially the educated and elite. As was common at the time, Nebuchadnezzar did a “citizen swap,” taking the citizens of Judah and moving them to Babylon while moving other conquered people into Judah. It was a way to control people and force them to integrate into the populations that conquered them. Judah became a province of Babylon, rather than an independent state.

About 50 years later, in 539, Babylon was conquered by Cyrus the Great; Judah then became a province of the Persian empire, and remained so until 332. According to the biblical history recorded in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah, one of the first acts of Cyrus was to commission the Jewish exiles to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple. And that’s the Bible passage we are going to look at today.

Distribute the handout and invite someone to read it. With children, stop at verse six.

Ask:

- Why did Cyrus ask the Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple?
- Who paid for it?
- Why would the Persians and Babylonians pay for the Temple in Jerusalem that was the worship place of the Jews and not of their own gods?
Who calls us to help rebuild the Cathedral in Haiti?

Why would we do that?

The primary point you want to make here is that it is God’s Temple, God’s House, and God calls all people to rebuild the temple – even those who aren’t worshippers of God. And God calls all of us to rebuild the Cathedral, which wasn’t destroyed in a war but rather destroyed by and earthquake. People were expected to give (essentially a tax) and encouraged to give free will offerings as well.

[for adults and older youth]

- What “treasures” might have been taken from Haiti?
- How might we “return” those treasures?

The discussion with older youth and adults can lead to reflecting on how Haiti was populated with slaves and when they revolted and won the war, they were forced by France to pay “reparations” (which was supported by the other nations in the world). It is the only time in which the victor in a war pays the loser! But the world forced Haiti to pay that debt and it is part of the reason Haiti is so poor today. And even today, that poverty drives its citizens to seek refuge in the United States and other countries – so often the brightest and best of the nation are giving the gifts and skills they have to the US or other nations.

**Bricks for Haiti**

Our church has made a commitment to raise funds to help rebuild the Cathedral complex in the Diocese of Haiti. We know that it will take many years and millions more dollars to rebuild all of the destroyed churches, schools, clinics, rectories...to say nothing of rebuilding the lives of the citizens. But for right now, we are focusing on one thing we can do together – rebuild the Cathedral which, like the Temple, serves as a focal point and symbol of God’s presence in the city and nation.

Invite the group to make bricks using the template provided. If you want “bigger brick” you can enlarge the template; or if you want smaller bricks, you can reduce the size of the template.

You can use the brick to raise money in a several ways:

- Decorate and sell the bricks.
- Decorate, sell the bricks and use them to have the youth build a “Cathedral” in your church – you’ll need to sell enough bricks to finish your building. In this case, you may want smaller bricks if you have a small display space – although bigger is always more impressive! In any case, you will need to glue the bricks together or your building will fall apart. It would be wise to anchor the bottom row with something heavy in the brick.
and to glue those bricks to a board or something that will hold the building steady. If you have carpenters in your congregation, you might have them construct a simple rectangle with a roof over it out of wood panels. The bricks can then be glued to the outside walls. If you have skilled and engaged adults or youth, you might even leave one side of the “Cathedral” open (like a doll house) and paint your version of the murals that were in Holy Trinity on the inside walls, construct pews, altar, etc. and offer those for sale as well. This could be a fun project for the whole church and a great visual reminder of what we’re doing in Haiti.

- Leave one end of the brick box open so you can distribute the boxes and encourage people to fill them with bills and bring them back on a specified date or seasonal time period (during Holy Week, on Pentecost, etc.)

Closing Prayer

Before you leave, invite the group members to pray for the people and church in Haiti.
Cyrus Helps the Exiles to Return
Ezra 1

1 In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:

2 “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:

“The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. 3 Any of his people among you may go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the LORD, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem, and may their God be with them. 4 And in any locality where survivors may now be living, the people are to provide them with silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with freewill offerings for the temple of God in Jerusalem.”

5 Then the family heads of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and Levites—everyone whose heart God had moved—prepared to go up and build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem. 6 All their neighbors assisted them with articles of silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with valuable gifts, in addition to all the freewill offerings.

7 Moreover, King Cyrus brought out the articles belonging to the temple of the LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and had placed in the temple of his god. 8 Cyrus king of Persia had them brought by Mithredath the treasurer, who counted them out to Sheshbazzar the prince of Judah.

This was the inventory:
- gold dishes 30
- silver dishes 1,000
- silver pans 29
- gold bowls 30
- matching silver bowls 410
- other articles 1,000

11 In all, there were 5,400 articles of gold and of silver. Sheshbazzar brought all these along with the exiles when they came up from Babylon to Jerusalem.

from The Message Bible
Mirkwood Designs

The Brick

1. Print this page on heavy card stock.
2. Decorate as desired.
3. Cut out along the perimeter.
4. Score on all internal lines.
5. Fold together and glue all flaps.
6. If you want, you can leave one end unglued and put a small gift inside.

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The Episcopal Church is raising funds to help the Diocese of Haiti rebuild the Cathedral complex. For more information on the campaign and news about what’s happening go to: www.episcopalchurch.org/HaitiAppeal
Many of the services we expect from the government—healthcare, education, culture—are provided in Haiti by The Episcopal Church. And many governmental agencies and NGOs have rushed to fill these needs in the aftermath. Episcopal Relief & Development is partnering with the Church in Haiti to provide short-term employment, provisional homes, and sanitation systems in addition to other community-focused recovery programs. The Clinton-Bush Haiti Fund sponsored mobile health clinics, and a United Nations fund has underwritten the clean-up of six neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince.

But there is one thing no one else can rebuild for The Episcopal Church: Holy Trinity Cathedral. Home of the famous murals that depicted the Biblical narrative, the Cathedral was a beacon in a land where strength of faith is inversely proportional to economic development. As the site of Holy Trinity Music School, the Cathedral trained a touring choir and the nation’s only symphony orchestra, providing both cultural development and income. Holy Trinity Professional School and the primary and secondary schools, also located on the Cathedral grounds, all raised up future leaders in an environment of cultural and spiritual grace. In 35 seconds, it was all reduced to rubble.

Bishop Jean Zaché Duracin and the people of Haiti have asked for our help. The Episcopal Church, acting through the Executive Council, asks every Episcopal diocese and congregation to join in this initial phase of rebuilding the Diocese of Haiti. As the walls of a new
Cathedral rise, so too will the hearts and fortunes of those who have depended on Holy Trinity for spiritual succor, for education, and for income. We have the chance to resurrect the spirit of a nation.

As they say in Haiti, *Men anpil chay pa lou*, or many hands make the load lighter. Working together, we can complete this project brick by brick, and $10 buys a brick.

**Roll Away the Stones**

Before the walls of a new cathedral can rise, the rubble must be cleared and the land secured against transient inhabitants. With help from UNESCO and the Smithsonian, workers are already sorting through the ruins for surviving fragments of the church’s famous murals.

*Brick by brick you can help recover one of Haiti’s great masterpieces.*

**Rebuild the Soul of a Nation**

Out of the destruction of the entire Cathedral Complex, new life has begun to rise, full of possibilities. The Haitian government has granted The Episcopal Church a plot of land that will nearly double our presence in downtown Port-au-Prince. Responsible rebuilding requires a thorough site inspection and the development of a master site plan before construction of individual buildings can begin.

*Brick by brick, you can help create a new spiritual home for thousands of Episcopalians.*

**New Life for Haiti**

The new Cathedral will serve as an anchor to the expanded Episcopal presence in downtown Port-au-Prince, offering worship space for 1,000, housing diocesan offices and a rectory, and incorporating as much of the historic frescoes as can be saved.

*Brick by brick, you can raise up the walls of a new cathedral over the ruins of the past.*

The Diocese of Haiti has conducted initial strategic planning, and engineers are already at work in Haiti instructing masons in earthquake-safe methods that are no more costly than the masonry that failed.

To begin, all we need is a brick or two, or ten, or a thousand. **If you wish to make a donation by check, please mail it to:**

Trinity Cathedral Fund, c/o Episcopal Church Foundation, 815 Second Ave.,

New York, New York 10017

To learn more, visit: [www.episcopalchurch.org/HaitiAppeal](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/HaitiAppeal)
HOPE FOR HAITI

This is one of the sessions included in Hope for Haiti resource packet. You are welcome to use it and share it freely.

*Hope for Haiti* has over 160 pages of education, fun and fundraising resources for congregations that want to learn about and join the campaign to rebuild the Cathedral complex in the Diocese of Haiti. This resource packet contains lesson plans for adults, youth and children -- several can be used with intergenerational groups. You'll learn about the country, the diocese, and the ministry of the church in Haiti. You can also explore some of the fun cultural aspects of Haiti: the tap-tap busses, fanal lanterns, proverbs, jokes and folk tales....and recipes to host a Haitian feast. Plus you'll get over 25 fundraising ideas, including detailed instructions and recipes for the trendy "Cupcakes and Cake Balls Fundraiser" and a Guide to Fundraising to help you get organized – tools you can use for years to come.

$19.95/congregation (download file; reproducible)

If you would like to learn more about *Hope for Haiti*, go to www.LeaderResources.org/hopeforhaiti

HURTING HEARTS AND HELPING HANDS
WHAT CAN WE DO FOR HAITI?

*Hurting Hearts and Helping Hands* is a Workshop Rotation Model cycle for Sunday School or Vacation Bible School (VBS) that helps children process what happened in Haiti and learn about how they can help. Children hear stories and learn songs from Haiti, make mud cookies, take a boat trip and play games to help them learn about the Haitian people and culture. Scripture reflection connects Christ's command to serve others with our desire to help our Haitian brothers and sisters. (download file; reproducible)

$59.95 single cycle

Included in the WorkshopCycles Membership
www.LeaderResources.org/Haitichildren
About LeaderResources

Resource Materials

LeaderResources produces practical training manuals, “how-to” leader’s guides and educational materials that are easy to use and can be modified to fit your situation. Step-by-step guides assist experienced and new leaders alike. We develop and produce resources in the areas of Christian Formation (children, youth and adult education), Ministry and Leadership Development. Visit our online store for FREE samples of all programs and a downloadable catalog – a print catalog is available upon request.

Evolutionary Resources™

The goal of LeaderResources is to foster learning communities. To this end, the resources we create are constantly changing, improved by those who use them. These “evolutionary resources”™ invite those who use them into the development process with the original program developer. This discourages the tendency to see the developer as the “expert” and encourages those who use the programs to become active participants in the learning process. It also supports our vision of developing and sharing resources as a ministry by and for the whole church.

Computer Resources

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