

SPI August/September 2022 Update



Harvest Les Cayes Church Launch Postponed

Throughout the month of August, the leadership of the Training Center worked alongside Pastor Levy RICÉ in order to prepare the launch service that was scheduled for September 25th. They were prepared to send supervisors and coaches to guide the various active teams of the church in Les Cayes. **However, by the end of the month, the situation in Haiti had worsened.**

Due to popular uprisings, road blockages, the fuel crisis, and lockdowns, the Leadership of the SPIH Training Center, jointly with Pastor Levy RICÉ, wisely **postponed the launching of Harvest Les Cayes from September 25th to October 23rd.**

Please join us in praying for the political, economic, and social turmoil in Haiti. **May God have His way** in the hearts and lives of those in this struggling nation, and **may Harvest Les Cayes launch on October 23rd, providing the light of Christ in the southern region of Haiti!**

Country Update: Fuel Crisis, Gangs, and the UN



Over the last few months, the economic and political situation in Haiti has grown worse. Having already been dealing with gang violence and takeovers, in early September, Prime Minister Ariel Henry announced that the government would no longer be subsidizing the cost of fuel. This sparked outrage throughout the nation, which was already protesting and calling for the removal of the Prime Minister. After this announcement of fuel price hikes, **“one of Haiti’s most powerful gangs seized control of a key fuel terminal in the capital of Port-au-Prince.”** For those who are able to afford fuel, it is largely being distributed on the black market at high prices of as much as \$19/gallon.

“Tens of thousands of demonstrators also have barricaded streets in Port-au-Prince and other major cities in recent weeks, preventing the flow of goods and traffic as part of an ongoing protest against a spike in the prices of gasoline, diesel and kerosene. **Gas stations and schools are closed, while banks and grocery stores are operating on a limited schedule.”**

With the situation worsening, the Haitian **Prime Minister has requested that the international community step in and provide “foreign military assistance to quell gang-related violence.”** The United Nations Security Council is now evaluating a plan of action, “including the immediate activation of foreign troops to help free Haiti from the grip of gangs that has caused a scarcity of fuel, water and other basic supplies.” However, the Haitian people are taking to the streets once again, now to **protest any foreign involvement on the ground**, as the UN peacekeepers that occupied Haiti in the early 2000s “were accused of sexual assault and sparked a cholera epidemic more than a decade ago that killed nearly 10,000 people.” These protests have resulted in multiple deaths and injuries.

As the UN debates their options, the United States has stated that they will be sending humanitarian aid and will be boosting “support for the Haitian police as they battled armed gangs.”

While there is no clear solution or decision from the international community, we take comfort knowing **God is in control**. We **pray for our churches** and their congregations, as the situation is making it difficult for many to find transportation to services, when it is even safe to do so. We **pray for provision** as many are struggling to get food, water, or even electricity. **We pray God’s peace overwhelms them in the midst of turmoil. We pray for peace in Haiti.**

Sources: <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/us-delegation-visiting-haiti-amid-humanitarian-crisis-official-2022-10-12/>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/10/11/haiti-thousands-protest-against-calls-for>

<https://apnews.com/article/health-caribbean-united-nations-haiti-puerto-rico-603a0ca6c7d4c28f36059d79754c37aa>

SPI Haiti Church Updates

Each month, Pastor Venet, the Director of the Training Center and Worship Pastor of Harvest Jacmel, contacts all SPI Haiti churches to provide a full report.

To view the August and September updates, click below.

[August Situation Report](#)

[September Situation Report](#)

[Visit the Summit Planting Initiative Website](#)