

***WE THANK THOSE WHO SERVE:***

Ministers - Every Member of the Church  
Pianist - Dee Ritter      Organist - Carrie Hier  
Keyboard - Steve Clark    Bass - Cary Cornwell    Drums - Dave Hunt  
Song Leader - Jim Ladiski  
Acolyte Coordinator - Sue Graham  
Fellowship Coordinator – Connie Paksi



Growing in God's word ~ Living in Spiritual unity ~ Sharing faith in Christ

**Serving This Week**

**Serving Next Week**

Greeters – Ladiski Family  
Acolytes – Jacqleen, Sarah, Saige, Michael  
Lay Reader – Kirk Baese  
Nursery - Michelle Martin  
Children's Church – Jessi Ladiski, Erica Cook  
Coffee Hour – Kirk & Rosemary Baese  
Welcome Ministry - Shelley Shimunec

Ben  
Bruce Wiegel  
Ellen Veale  
Renee Denison, Michelle Moore  
Valentine Dinner  
Russ Westbrook

***WELCOME!***

This morning you've chosen to worship with us and we thank you for doing so. Whether family, friend, or guest, it's our hope that you will feel welcome in this place as we worship our God through Jesus Christ together.

***LAST WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP REPORT***

**Attendance:** Worship Service – 76      Christian Life Classes - 12

**Finance Report:**

General Fund:		\$2049
Special Funds:	Mission	\$ 35
	Mission – Haiti	\$ 160
	Haiti Health Kits	\$ 20
	Building	\$ 55

**The United Church of Ovid**  
**131 West Front Street, PO Box 106, Ovid, MI 48866**  
**989-834-5958 / [www.unitedchurchofovid.org](http://www.unitedchurchofovid.org)**  
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Secretary - Sue Casler email: [sue@unitedchurchofovid.com](mailto:sue@unitedchurchofovid.com) - office 989-834-5958  
[www.unitedchurchofovid.org](http://www.unitedchurchofovid.org) (webmaster - Steve Clark)



**February 7, 2010 – Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**

# Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning!

(\*\* - notes where to stand physically and/or spiritually)

*Theme for Today: discovering how we belong*

## Music to “Bring Us In” – Hymn Singing

**Opening Song** “Wash O God Our Sons and Daughters” UMH #605

**Greetings** (see your “News You Can Use” insert)

Leader: At the United Church of Ovid, our purpose is to...

**People: Grow in God’s word, live in Spiritual unity, and share faith in Christ!**

Leader: And why are we here?

**People: To worship!**

**\*\* Time of Praise & Opening Prayer** (see insert) “Here I Am to Worship”  
“Days of Elijah”

## \*\* Call to Worship

Leader: Here we are to worship! Here we are to bow down!

**All: We are here to say that God’s our God!**

Leader: We are God’s people crying out, “Behold He comes...prepare the way...”

**All: We lift our voice because salvation is on its way!**

Leader: No matter what we face...no matter what obstacle stands in our way...

**All: We’re so glad we’re a part of the family of God.**

Leader: So in our singing, in our reading, in the message and in Communion, may our worship remind us that we belong.

**All: God is ours and we are his! We are here to worship. Amen.**

**Giving Back to God - \*\*Response** “Praise God from Who All...” UMH #95

## \*\*Prayer of Dedication

**Children’s Time** (Immediately following, 0-4 year olds are invited to the nursery upstairs or those 5-10 years old are invited to Children’s Church downstairs.)

**Response** – “Thank you Jesus, amen! (three times) Alleluia Amen!”<sup>1</sup>

## Scripture Reading

I Peter 2:4-10

pg.1176

Reader: This is the word of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Time of Reflection** – Please take this time to reflect on God’s word for your life.

## Prayers of the People

When indicated in the pastoral prayer, you are invited to lift up your spoken and unspoken prayers as we pray to God together. On the enclosed insert you are also invited to record your praises and prayers for next week’s bulletin.

**Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer** (using “sins/sin” for “trespasses“) UMH #895  
**Response** “Amen” - A-men. A-men. A---men. UMH #898

**Message** “Belonging - 101” Pastor Greg

## Sacrament of Communion

**Song of Preparation** – “Come Sinners to the Gospel Feast” UMH #616

**Sharing the Sacraments** – Today the sacraments will be shared in the pews. Please take yours and then pass along the row and then hold your elements until the pastor indicates when we share in them together.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**\*\*Blessing and Congregational Response** - “O How He Loves You and Me”<sup>2</sup>

“Oh how He loves you and me...Oh how He loves you and me.

He gave His life...what more could He give?

Oh how He loves you...Oh how He loves me. Oh how He loves you and me.

Jesus to Calv’ry did go...His love to all he did show...

What He did there...brought hope from despair.

Oh how He loves you...Oh how He loves me. Oh how He loves you and me.”

**“Sending Us Out” Music** - Please join us in the family center (on the opposite end of the end of the building) for a time of refreshments, community-building and fellowship.

<sup>1</sup> “The Faith We Sing” #2081

<sup>2</sup> PRAISE hymnal #214

## News You Can Use

*THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR - February 7 – February 14, 2010*

<b>Sunday</b>	9:15 am - Christian Life Classes (opening - worship area) 10:30 am - Worship with a fellowship following (worship area/family center)
<b>Monday</b>	3:30 pm – United Kids (basement) 7 pm- Boy Scouts (basement)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9 am – Paint Class (basement) 12:30 pm - Senior Luncheon (family center) 3:30 pm – Seasons of Grief Support group (library) 6 pm – Girl Scouts (basement)
<b>Wednesday</b>	7 pm – Choir (worship area) - New and previous voices always welcome!
<b>Thursday</b>	9:30 am – Easter Celebration (egg hunt) Planning Mt. (basement) 12:30 pm – Senior Luncheon (family center)
<b>Saturday</b>	11 am – Family Center in use
<b>Sunday</b>	9:15 am - Christian Life Classes (opening - worship area) 10:30 am - Worship with a fellowship following (worship area/family center) 11:30 am – Valentine Dinner (family center)

### Upcoming Events

**The Easter Celebration** (egg hunt) Planning Meeting will be Thurs., Feb. 11 at 9:30 am in the basement. If you're interested in helping, please contact Jessi Ladiski at 834-9795.

**Liturgical Dance** – is gearing up for Easter. Practices will start on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> after worship. Anyone interested should contact Denise Dennison at 723-7192 or show up at practice!

**“Seasons of Grief” – Bereavement Support Group** – have started on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 3:30 pm. Johanna Workman (MAFS), from Heartland Hospice (1-888-670-7448), a grief survivor herself, is leading the ongoing classes.

**A Tweens Christian Life Class is now available** for 4<sup>th</sup> graders – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Sundays at 9:15am with AnnMarie & Brenda Wiegel teaching We will meet in the worship space for opening exercises and then go to the Upper Room above the kitchen for class.

**“United Kids” After School Ministry** – is happening every Monday, 3:30-5 pm for all 4 year olds – 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The program includes a healthy snack, games & activities, singing, dancing, puppets and skits. For more info, call Erica (517-202-2522) or Jessi (834-9795).

**NOOMA, Do you believe that God has something to say right here...right now.** On Sunday mornings at the 9:15 am Adult Christian Life Class, we are sharing the NOOMA series which is based on that truth. Each class is unique so you can jump in at any time.

**“Discovering Your Shape” (Discovery Class 301)** – will be on Mondays, 6:30 pm, from February 22<sup>nd</sup> – March 29<sup>th</sup>. This class will build on the information shared on Sunday mornings through Lent. If you want to know more about your Spiritual hard-wiring, you'll want to be there. Any questions see Pastor Greg.

**Our 2010 Confirmation Class is starting** - this specially revised 101 class for those youth 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older will be held on Sundays, February 21<sup>st</sup> through March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 4:30 pm. Sign up is available at the sign up table at the Front Street entrance. See Pastor Greg with any questions.

**The United Women will be hosting a Valentine Dinner** for all of you next Sunday, February 14 after worship service. Plan on inviting someone to come to worship and dinner with you. Please sign up to let us know how many to plan for.

### Volunteers needed for...

**Tech Table Director** – Plans are well underway for our projection system and upgrade to our sound booth. When finished, we're going to need someone here each week to be sure everything runs smoothly. If you have a servant's heart, a drive for quality worship, and the God-given skills needed, please send a letter of interest indicating those traits to UCO-Tech Table, PO Box 106, Ovid, MI 48866. This is a volunteer position that will become a paid position in time. Please have your letters in by February 15, 2010.

**Tech Personnel** – As we transition into our new system, we need volunteers! So, we are putting together a rotating list of those who are interested in working the sound for our Sunday worship experiences. Training will be provided. See the sign-up sheet at the Front Street entrance or contact the church office for more information.

**Greeters and Coffee Hour Hosts** – There are plenty of opportunities for you to be involved in both of these necessary areas. Please sign up at the sign-up table or contact the church office if you have any questions.

**Deadlines:** Bulletin announcements - Wednesday of each week.  
Newsletter info – 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before the month of the newsletter.

### Community Corner

#### **UCO Birthdays & Anniversaries**

If we've missed your special day please let the church office know!

**February Birthdays:** 1- Breanna Baese 3-Rachelle Parsons5-Evelyn Bush, Brianna Pierce 6-Harvey Darling, Gabbrielle Vanderhoof 8-Sue Graham, Dave Stilwell, Benjamine Cook9-Don Seelhoff 10-Connie Albaugh 11-Kaleb Casler 12-Rick Bush 15-Lois Bracey, Kristine Batora16-Jesse Huntoon 18-Dorine Horn, Nikki Fluke 19-Diane Perrier, Jessi Casler, Soren Astle 20-Ryan Baese, Ruth Clark 21-Charlotte Terpstra 22-Dusty Anderson 24-Matthew Stevens 26-Ryker Parsons 27-Richard Phillipson, Sarah Iler

**February Wedding Anniversaries ;** 2-Rich & Lynn Givens, Dick & Joyce Young  
5-Mark & Bev Stehlik

## Praise and Prayer List

Last Updated: February 2, 2010

If you would like your praise, prayer request, or update put on this list for next Sunday, please use your "let us know" sheet, call the church office before Wednesday, or use the "prayer bulletin board" in the main hallway. Otherwise, please be sure to lift up your prayer or praise during the pastoral prayer when indicated. Thank you!

Praises and prayers on the four lists below will remain for two weeks unless updated.

**We give God praise for:** Sally Kioski – home / Hoops for Haiti / Wesley Woods Camp Experience / Connie Paksi our new Fellowship Coordinator // Lena Trowbridge – strength / adoption of an Haitian boy

**We pray for the health & healing of:** Larry Majorana – cancer – relative of AnnMarie Buchner / Barb Malinak – stroke / Katie Grim – Health / Jessica Hallmark – health / Susan Tomasek-Swan – Surgery & recovery / Jeff Furchey – Liver problems / Warren Dennison – health problems– father of Bob Dennison // Lois Hendrickson – undergoing chemo – Niece of Lena Trowbridge / Kylie Erdman – hospice care – Niece of Jean Murdock / Larry Howland – cancer of esophagus / Arvilla Bunnell – strength and healing – aunt of Steve Clark / Clyde Gilbert – health – brother of Nancy Hehrer / Bea Shirey –heart problems – grandmother of Ben Cook / James White – very rare form of cancer

**We share our sympathy with the families of:** Lou Goosen / Helen Dunkel / Berry Rivest / Conor – an 8th grader suicide // Katie Miller / families who lost loved ones in Haiti

**We lift up our general requests of:** people around the globe / those affected by the earthquake in Haiti / those serving in Haiti / traveling mercies / people that are shut in / discussion around local fire and ambulance facilitates / couples who are having marital issues

Prayers on the three lists below will remain until we receive some update or request.

**We lift up those who are experiencing longer term healing and treatment:** Emily Ann Pruse – healing of ear / Sally Kioski –home / Jean Loznak – cancer / Norma George – recovering from back surgery / Connie Parmenter – cancer of esophagus / Gary Wilkins – cancer / Louise Rees – Home from OHC / Chris Wilkins - cancer / Buddy Ilgenfritz - home / Clyde Gilbert - Health issues / Mary Ann Wittenberg - cancer / Laurie Higgins- cancer / Kate Kelly / Joan Bracey - Alzheimer's / Katie & Faith Heinze – Niemann-Pick Disease

**We lift up those who have served or are serving in our peacekeeping efforts worldwide:** Josh Wiegel, Pete Carpenter, Kevin Hehrer, Bret Fell, Kori Sheldon, James King, Greg White, Bob Wienry, Mike Kimmel, Nicholas Passmore, Doug Betts, Chris Sodman, William Piwowarski, John Westbrook, Keith Burba, Robert Allen, Ted Olson, Kurt Doten, Scott Meyers, Tony Wieber, Jason Spencer, Dallas Blooding, Jason Westbrook, Emily (Moore) Berlo, Al Berlo, Neil Hegle, Brian Moody, Arin Monahan, Jarred Luckhardt

**We remember those who are continually in our thoughts:** shut-ins / RAVE families / UMC & UCC leaders / Christian churches in our community & around the globe / local, state, national, world leaders / those affected by famine, disease, & persecution, nationally and internationally, because of natural and human-made disasters / those in our community who need a relationship with Jesus

## *Time of Praise*

### “Here I Am to Worship”<sup>3</sup>

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness...opened my eyes let me see.  
Beauty that made this heart adore You...hope of a life spent with You.

*(refrain)* - Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted.  
Glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly You came to the earth you created.  
All for love's sake became poor.

*(to refrain)*

I'll never know how much it cost...to see my sin upon that cross. *(3x then to refrain)*

*(ending)* - Here I am to worship...here I am to worship...

### “Days of Elijah”<sup>4</sup>

These are the days of Elijah...declaring the Word of the Lord.  
And these are the days of his servant, Moses...righteousness being restored.  
And these are the days of great trial...of famine and darkness and sword.  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying, “Prepare ye the way of the Lord!”

*(refrain)* - Behold He comes...riding on a cloud...shining like the sun...  
at the trumpet's call! Lift your voice...it's the year of jubilee...  
and out of Zion 'till salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel...with dry bones becoming as flesh.  
And these are the days of his servant, David...building the temple of praise.  
And these are the days of the harvest...the fields are as white in the world.  
And we are the laborers in your vineyard declaring the word of the Lord! *(to refrain)*

There's no god like Jehovah! *(repeat as directed then refrain)*

<sup>3</sup> MPW116-CCLI 703014(©2001 Thankyou Music) – John 4:18-25, 8:12

<sup>4</sup> MPW139-CCLI 703014 (©1997 Daybreak Music by Robin Mark) - John 1:19-23, 1 Kings 18:16-41,  
Malachi 3:1-2

# “Belonging (101)”

I Peter 2:4-10

February 7, 2010

Pastor Greg Buchner - United Church of Ovid

**Theme for Today: *discovering how we belong***

**Introduction** – It’s good to belong in the body of Christ...

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praise of him who called you out of darkness and into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” – I Peter 2:9-10

## I – Our History of Belonging

The United Church of Ovid has belonged since September 20, 1942.  
Our Congregational history of belonging dates back to 1871.  
Our Methodist history of belonging dates back to 1860.

2010-1860 = 150 years of belonging!

## II – We’re Organized to Help Us and Others Belong

“We would serve in this community as we hope to serve one day when our mother Churches are one the world around: combining local unity with kingdom loyalty.” (UCO charter)

The United Church of Ovid is organized and governed as an autonomous, congregational local congregation that works with both the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church in fulfilling its mission to grow in God’s word, live in Spiritual unity, and share faith in Christ. Both denominations bring different traditions and organizations that allow The United Church of Ovid to reach out in a variety of ways to our community, to our region, and to our world.

## III – Belonging Describes How We Believe About God

We are one church, serving one Lord, one faith, one baptism, but with two denominations, The United Methodist Church and The United Church of Christ.

When the First Congregational Church of Ovid and the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church united in 1942, the congregation said that the purpose of the new congregation was “to coordinate all the resources of our property and people for the fullest effectiveness to the kingdom of God in this community, while maintaining in complete cooperation our denominational connection for their benefit in ministerial supply, supervision, and social and spiritual stimulation.”

## IV – Belonging Helps Us Face Present and Future Challenges

We continue to discover ways to be in mission and ministry together, despite differences that may push and pull at the fabric of the church, because we believe that there is an increasing, more relevant desire to spread the good news of Jesus Christ and the church’s ministries of peace and justice in order to bring hope to a hurting world.

## Conclusion – The Level of Belonging is Up to You...

- Visitor / Returning Visitor / Regular participant / Member – Choice is yours!

### ***personal application questions***

What does belonging mean to you?

What does belonging to the Christian faith mean to you?

What level of belonging at the United Church of Ovid makes sense to you?

Everyone is invited to a

# Valentine Dinner

Sunday, February 14  
After Worship

The United Women will be preparing

Salad  
Roast Pork  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Baked Potato  
Vegetable  
Dessert Table  
Coffee, Punch

This is our Valentine Gift to You ! Give a Valentine Gift to a friend and invite them to come to worship and dinner !!

Please sign up at the sign-up table so we know approximately how many to prepare for.

## United Church of Ovid Emergency Appeal

**DONATE NOW**  
to the **HAITI EMERGENCY**

How You Can Help: (100% of what you give will go towards the relief efforts.)

1. PRAY - Pray for the people of Haiti their leaders and emergency and humanitarian aid workers and those still unaccounted for.
2. GIVE LOCALLY OR BY PHONE- Consider helping the people of Haiti by giving to UCO marked "UMCOR – Haiti" in the memo and we will send it on or call 1-800-554-8583 to give your donation over the phone. (Tell them you're from the United Church of Ovid.) - 100% of your gift will go towards the relief efforts.
3. HELP WITH A HEALTH KIT - The United Women is challenging our congregation to provide 100 plus Health Kits to send to Haiti. We are collecting the following items during the month of February. If you would like to donate items, please bring to the church. If you would like to donate money to help, please put into offering plate and mark it 'Health Kits'.

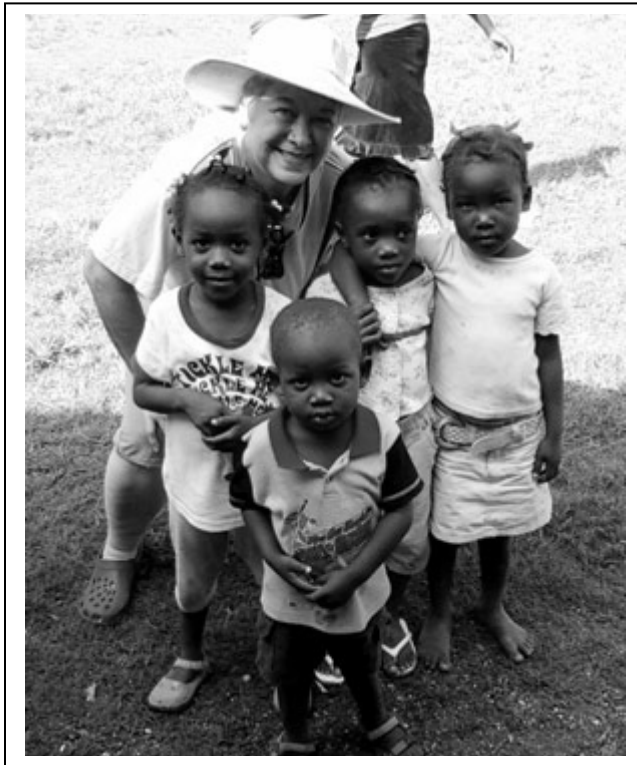
### Kit Contents

- 1 hand towel (15" X 25" up to 17" X 27", no kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 metal nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap in original wrapper (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages

(NOTE - UMCOR Sager Brown is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before it is sent. Please include \$1 for each kit you send toward the purchase of toothpaste.)

### Important Kit Assembly Information

- All items included in kits must be NEW items.
- All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items – nothing more.
- Do NOT include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed delaying the shipment.



## 'They've got a long road ahead of them'

Elisabeth Waldon - Staff Writer –  
The Daily News <sup>5</sup>

EDMORE - A catastrophic earthquake won't keep two local missionaries from returning to Haiti. In fact, Terrie Eisenmann and Nick Main now have an even greater passion for the Haitians.

Eisenmann, 61, of Blanchard, and Main, 18, of Edmore, recently returned from a mission trip to Haiti. The journey was Eisenmann's eighth and Main's second. "I am so glad I wasn't leading this trip because I would have lost my mind," Eisenmann admitted. "It was so chaotic getting out."

## 'A very friendly people'

Eisenmann and Main flew from Detroit on New Year's Day with 15 others on a United Methodist Volunteers & Missions team to Miami, Port-au-Prince and finally the port city of Jeremie.

Eisenmann and Main both attend Faith United Methodist Church in Edmore, which supports a church, orphanage and school in Roseaux, about 16 miles from Jeremie. Thirteen children live at the orphanage and 45 children are fed there every day from an outdoor kitchen.

The Rev. Don Gotham, pastor of St. Clare United Methodist Church, led the team, which has been rebuilding a church for the past seven years after the building was severely damaged in a hurricane eight years ago. The weather stayed at about 80 degrees each day, along with frequent bursts of pouring rain.

Eisenmann first visited Haiti in 2003.

"After my first trip I had to go back," she said. "Those people have got my heart.

"Haitians are a very friendly people," Eisenmann added. "Their whole culture is based on relationships. In the U.S. we tend to focus on money and power and relationships come last. In Haiti, relationships come first. If you make a friend in Haiti, they're a friend for life. The Haitian people are very strong, very resilient. These people have survived 200 years of oppression and starvation and dirty water and no electricity and their faith is so strong because all they have is God. That's why I keep going back. They're such an inspiration."

Eisenmann encouraged Main to join her last year. The two knew each other from church and Main also works at Moody Blueberry Farm in Blanchard, owned by Eisenmann and her husband, "D." Main graduated from Montabella High School last year and leads the church's youth group with his girlfriend.

In Haiti, Main stayed busy painting the church and playing soccer with the local children. He taught them English and they taught him Creole.

"The kids just swarm around you," he said. "They just want any little minute you can give them. You're going there to work, but you're also going there to make relationships with people there, just to let them know you care."

## 'Is this an earthquake?'

At about 4:50 p.m. Jan. 12, the missionaries were packing their duffle bags. They were planning to leave the next morning for Port-au-Prince to do some more work before flying home on Jan. 16.

Main was sitting on the porch of the orphanage, playing games with the children and visiting with other adults.

"All of a sudden the house started to shake, the ground started to shake," he recalled. "We jumped up, we started saying, 'Is this an earthquake? What should we do?' It felt like you were on a pontoon boat and it was kind of rolling."

Eisenmann was stacking a pile of duffle bags on the porch when she lost her balance.

The earthquake lasted several minutes. Not much was damaged near Jeremie, but tremors continued throughout the next few days and nights.

"You'd lie in bed and all of a sudden the bed would just shake," Main said.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.thedailynews.cc/main.asp?Search=1&ArticleID=32370&SectionID=2&SubSectionID=11&S=1>

## 'Wow, this is real and people are dying'

The missionaries were able to get word to Michigan that they were safe, but they didn't realize how destructive the earthquake had been until the next day.

"When it really struck us all hard was the next morning, because there was no TV and only two radio stations broadcasting in Creole," Eisenmann said. "We couldn't get on the Internet and our cell phones were out. We had just eaten breakfast and we were talking and laughing and we heard this wailing and sobbing coming from the porch. It was our painting boss and he had learned that his oldest sister had died in Port-au-Prince. That really sobered us all up. It was like, 'Wow, this is real and people are dying.'"

A local man had taken a pastor to Port-au-Prince earlier that week, a 12-hour drive through the mountains. Main recalled the driver's arrival home.

"He started walking up and I ran up to give him a great big hug, but his face - it was just so sad to see him, I don't even know how to explain it," Main said. "He just had this pale, devastated look on his face. You just knew that he had seen things that no one should ever have to see. For me, that's when it really set in, because he's a pretty tough guy."

"He couldn't even talk," Eisenmann added.

"We were never in any danger," she said. "We were safe the whole time. I think it was harder on our families. We didn't see any of the damage and we weren't there in the midst of the chaos but we did see the pain in the people's eyes."

The missionaries didn't know how they were going to get home, so they kept working on the church.

"We wanted to stay busy," Main said. "The group we had was a really unique group. We knew we had a lot of people praying for us back home. We were all just like, 'OK, we'll just roll with it.' We were calm."

## 'Alabama Dave and His Flying Sardine Can'

The missionaries eventually realized they could not fly home from Port-au-Prince. After numerous attempts, they found two volunteer pilots from aid organization Bahamas Habitat who agreed to fly them out from Jeremie's airport, which consisted of a dirt runway often covered with roaming cows.

The missionaries stuffed themselves into two tiny planes and flew three hours to

Nassau in the Bahamas. One pilot had to return to Jeremie to pick up a third group of the missionaries.

Eisenmann said they nicknamed their pilot "Alabama Dave and His Flying Sardine Can."

When the group arrived in the Bahamas, they saw television footage of the earthquake's damages for the first time.

"We knew it would be on TV, but we weren't prepared for the images that we saw," Eisenmann said.

"It was really surprising how much damage it had caused and how it was still on the news," Main added.

## 'They've got a long road ahead of them'

The missionaries landed in Detroit on Tuesday afternoon. As they walked off the plane and into the airport, they were surprised to see TV cameras and interviewers along with family members, including Main's mother, Serena Anderson.

"I was ecstatic," she said. "I couldn't sleep at all the night before."

Eisenmann and Main both look forward to returning to Haiti a year from now.

"If anything, it definitely energized me to go back," Main said.

"They've got a long road ahead of them," added Eisenmann of the Haitians.

"As connected as they are, friendship and relationship-wise, it's especially going to affect them," said Main of the earthquake's devastation.

Main's parents, Al Main and Anderson, show no signs of holding their son back.

"There's no way I could stop him," said Anderson with a proud smile.



1. PRAY - Pray for the people of Haiti, their leaders and humanitarian aid workers.
2. GIVE BY PHONE call UMCOR at 1-800-554-8583 to give your donation over the phone. - 100% of the gift will go towards relief efforts.