

# LOTT CAREY Herald

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## Helping HAITI Rise Again!

**Lott Carey responded immediately  
to Haiti earthquake through local  
partner and various collaborations**

**Pledge of \$50 million brings help,  
healing to Haiti**

**Lott  
Carey** 



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Lott Carey

Lott Carey Foreign  
Mission Convention

COVER: Scores of Haitians like this woman struggle to survive in their earthquake-ravaged nation.

# Lott Carey developing response to deal with needs in Haiti

A small Lott Carey team spent a week in Haiti in March 2010. The purpose of our visit was to listen and learn; to offer a ministry of encouragement; to review our first phase of response; and to plan our next 90-day strategy. God blessed our four-person team with safe and productive work.

To experience Haiti before the earthquake was emotionally challenging. To experience Haiti after the earthquake can be overwhelming. Many buildings are crumbled, collapsed, or crippled – leaning at peculiar angles as if they are waiting for one good push to end their misery.

Witnessing people living under makeshift shelters of tarpaulin wrapped around sticks or, even worse, cardboard and sheets wrapped around the sticks, is depressing. The smells of waste and decomposition fill the warm and humid air. Some people seem depressed and discouraged. Others seem to be moving about trying to conduct small-scale business and making modest progress. It is a lot to absorb, and it leaves one feeling overwhelmed.

Among the encouraging moments of our visit, however, was accompanying our colleagues from *L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti* as they traveled to a caterer's home to pick up 150 meals that are prepared daily for the St. Nicholas Hospital in Saint-Marc. One of the exciting aspects of this ministry response is that our investment is employing eight women who work five hours per day six days a week to prepare the meals for the hospital.

This approach is addressing the need to empower Haitians in the aftermath of the earthquake. We are purchasing food that Haitians grow and Haitians are being employed to provide meals.

One of the difficulties being imposed on Haiti's recovery is how outside generosity is undermining the fragile agriculture capacity in the country. When food is shipped from outside the country and distributed freely, locally grown foods are not purchased. This hurts the local growers and workers. We are trying to be sensitive to these dynamics and supportive in ways that enable and not interfere.

The needs in Haiti are great at this time, but the following are some of the needs that were described to us.

- ▶ Transitional shelters for families to provide a dry place to sleep at night and some shelter from the sun during the day
- ▶ Food
- ▶ Employment opportunities or small business grants
- ▶ Psychological care for people living with stress from the quake, aftershocks, and losses
- ▶ Temporary shelter for schools and instructional supplies for students

We are working to build a response to each of these items, and we are working with our Haitian colleagues to determine scale and scope, and to schedule possibilities for volunteer opportunities. As you are aware, Lott Carey seeks to avoid mission tourism.



We try to ensure that short-term mission assignments are targeted with meaning and purpose, and that they are born out of needs expressed by our hosting partners. We do all we can to avoid “using” our partners to provide visitation opportunities that primarily make us feel good and result in our doing very little good.

This edition of the *Lott Carey Herald* is an effort to help you gain a glimpse at the opportunities for impact in Haiti following the earthquake. We are making a multi-year investment in “helping people rise again.” We thank God for your generous hearts and ask you for your continuous prayers. Ask for discernment. Ask for resources. Ask for partners. Ask for grace. ■

With hope,

*David*

David Emmanuel Goatley  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Lott Carey



# Lott Carey responded immediately to Haiti earthquake through local partner and various collaborations

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention had a presence on the Caribbean island of Haiti long before the earth shifted and the ground moved there on Jan. 12, 2010.

So when cries for help rang out after the massive 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck the Republic that fatal day, Lott Carey was poised to immediately respond through its local partner.

Working via L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti – the Strategic Union of Baptist Churches of Haiti – Lott Carey brought help to those most severely affected. The earthquake's epicenter near the town of Leogane and other communities to the west of the capital city of Port-au-Prince were the worst hit, leaving residents in those places with the most critical needs.

L'Union, the group of 22 churches that Lott Carey supports with monthly financial assistance and annual pastors' training schools, coordinated its efforts to provide such essentials as meals to internally displaced persons and patients at a local hospital, and cash and grocery grants to families.

"This (earthquake) is an evil we have never seen before," said Rev. Marc A. Pierre-Louis, president of L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti. "This earthquake has caused a lot of distress."

More than 200,000 people reportedly died in the earthquake and roughly three million people were affected. A multitude of Haitians are homeless, and only a smattering have been lucky enough to get tents provided by aid organization that converged on the island. Those



The streets of Haiti are littered with rubble from the massive earthquake.



Vast numbers of Haitians now reside in makeshift camps like this one.

without tents have pieced together shelters out of scrap material.

Some of L'Union's own churches in places like Leogane and Petite-Riviere de Nippes were severely damaged and parishioners struggled for food and basic necessities.

"We have lost some parishioners from this church," said Rev. Saul Hendrick, pastor of the Lott Carey Baptist Church in Leogane. Additionally, the church was cracked all over and the front collapsed, making the structure unusable.



"In our society people are living in misery," said Pierre-Louis, whose headquarters town of Saint-Marc has become a community of transients who have nowhere else to go.

L'Union outlined an immediate action plan that included needs such as household items, sleeping mats and tents, large tents for worship services and medical supplies. In turn, Lott Carey responded with financial assistance and collaborated with other partners such as Friend Ships Unlimited and Baptist World Aid to bring direct help.

Less than two months after the earthquake the Lott Carey network's gifts for Haiti surpassed \$1 million and collaborations had expanded to include various other agencies with a heart for Haiti.

Perhaps the biggest collaboration is one that unites Lott Carey and four of America's largest historic African American Baptist organizations under the African American Baptist Mission Collaboration (AABMC). The group has pledged \$50 million to help rebuild Haiti.

"There is much more work to be done together," Rev. Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, executive secretary-treasurer of Lott Carey, told members of L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti during a visit to the island in March. "By God's grace we will be able to learn and work and plan together."

Pierre-Louis and the leadership of L'Union are now looking ahead to more long-term recovery plans for their nation. They also are continuing to draw strength from their Lott Carey family.

Future needs include continuing nutrition efforts, which means buying locally produced goods rather than those imported; addressing shelter and housing concerns, and supporting

economic development by investing in family owned businesses and other ventures.

"You are the ones who are on the front lines, and you give us opportunity to exercise the gifts that God has

placed in us," Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, first vice president of Lott Carey, told the members of L'Union in March.

"We look forward to deepening our relationships with you going forward," he said. ■



This Haitian woman rests on the floor of a tent that is now home.



Rev. Marc A. Pierre-Louis is president of L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti.



# Pledge of \$50 million brings help, healing to Haiti

The devastating January 2010 earthquake that ravaged the island of Haiti was ironically the catalyst that sparked one of the most significant African American Baptist mission collaborations in history.

Five of America's largest historic African American Baptist organizations have joined together for the first time in a project to help rebuild Haiti. Under the umbrella of the African American Baptist Mission Collaboration (AABMC), the effort earmarks \$50 million to provide services and facilities for Haiti earthquake survivors.

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, the National Baptist Convention USA, the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America, the National Baptist Convention of America and the Progressive National Baptist Convention together represent more than 40,000 congregations and 10 million Christians nationwide.

"We realize that members of our churches across America are deeply affected by the damage that this earthquake has wreaked on families and individuals in Haiti," said Rev. Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, president of the National Baptist Convention USA.

"African American Baptists know what it means to support one another through devastation," echoed Rev. Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, executive secretary-treasurer of Lott Carey and coordinator for the AABMC.



The African American Baptist Mission Collaboration could help Haitians like Suze Pierre Rene.

Plans under the collaboration include building health care clinics, schools, and homes. A volunteer management program to assist AABMC church members wishing to donate their time also is in development, and the collaboration is establishing an orphanage partnership program to ensure Haitian orphans are properly cared for.

Supporting the collaboration in various ways, from time volunteered to money donated, ultimately means impacting the lives of Haitians such

as Suze Pierre Rene of Port-au-Prince. In March she and her two children were living in a tent camp for displaced persons. They had been there for a month.

A general merchant who sold items such as T-shirts and jewelry before the quake, Rene said she lost her home and everything in it. Now she spends her days in the camp doing nothing, unsure how she can start her business or her life over again since she doesn't even have identification.

Right now, "I am waiting on God," she said. ■



National Baptist Convention of America





# Haiti's history — good and bad — forms strong people

When you encounter the people of Haiti you experience a certain strength of character.

It is a quality that no doubt comes from Haitians' rich history as a people whose ancestors created the world's first independent black republic. This manner comes through despite the country's equally significant history of poverty, violent

rulers and natural disasters.

The 7.0-magnitude earthquake that rocked the Caribbean nation Jan. 12, 2010 unsettled the already shaky economic, social and political stability of Haiti. But its original foundation, built on tough people eager to make their own way, is still in place.

Examine this timeline of Haiti's distinctive history.



Some of the members of L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti.

## HAITI'S HISTORY

1492	Christopher Columbus lands and names the island Hispaniola, or Little Spain.	
1697	Spain cedes western part of Hispaniola to France, and this becomes Haiti.	
1801	A former black slave, Toussaint Louverture, conquers Haiti, abolishing slavery and proclaiming himself governor-general of an autonomous government over all Hispaniola.	
1802	French force fails to conquer Haitian interior.	
1804	Haiti becomes independent; former slave Jean-Jacques Dessalines declares himself emperor.	
1806	Dessalines is killed and Haiti split into a black-controlled north and a mulatto-ruled south.	
1818-43	Pierre Boyer unifies Haiti, but excludes blacks from power.	
1915	U.S. invades Haiti following black-mulatto friction.	
1934	U.S. withdraws troops from Haiti, but maintains fiscal control until 1947.	
1956	Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier seizes power and is elected president a year later.	
1964	Duvalier declares himself president-for-life and establishes a dictatorship.	
1971	Duvalier dies and is succeeded by his son, Jean-Claude, or "Baby Doc," who also declares himself president-for-life.	
1986	Baby Doc flees Haiti in the wake of mounting popular discontent.	
1990	Jean-Bertrand Aristide elected president.	
1991	Aristide ousted in a coup.	
1994	Military regime gives up power in the face of an imminent U.S. invasion; Aristide returns.	
1995	Rene Preval elected in December to replace Aristide as president.	
2000	Aristide elected president for a second non-consecutive term.	
2004	January-February - Celebrations marking 200 years of independence are marred by violent uprising against President Aristide. He is forced into exile; an interim government takes over.	
2004	May - Severe floods in the south leave more than 2,000 dead or disappeared.	
2004	September - Nearly 3,000 killed in flooding in the north after tropical storm Jeanne.	
2006	General elections, the first since Aristide was overthrown in 2004. Rene Preval is declared the winner of the presidential vote.	
2008	Nearly 800 people are killed and hundreds are left injured as Haiti is hit by a series of storms and hurricanes.	
2010	January - Tens of thousands of people are killed when a magnitude 7.0 earthquake hits.	

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/1202857.stm>



# Earthquake ravages Republic of Haiti.



An estimated three million people were affected by the earthquake.



The earthquake lasted roughly 35 seconds.



More than 200,000 people died in the disaster.



"Ann Leve Kanpe" means "Let Us Rise Again" in Haitian Creole.



Available open land in Haiti is being used for shelter.



# *yet hope prevails with help and support*



Haitians are crafting shelters out of all kinds of materials.



With many schools closed, Haiti's children have been greatly affected.



Haiti's presidential palace fell victim to the earthquake.



Clean water was scarce in the days following the devastation.



Life that was already hard has been made more difficult since the quake.



# Various forms of shelter dot the Haitian landscape; Lott Carey committed to transitional shelters, building homes



The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs estimated more than 1.9 million people had been displaced by the end of February.

Shelter is a relative word in Haiti's current context.

Since the January earthquake that turned portions of the island upside down, people have been existing in all types of shelters.

Drive around the hardest hit areas of Haiti, which resemble a bombed-out war zone, and you will see military style tents, less-than-sturdy pup tents, sheets strewn over scrap materials, and everything in between.

These shelters are placed everywhere – tent cities set up by the various aid organizations that converged on the island, street corners and on remote, open land.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs estimated more than 1.9

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*The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention is committed to helping provide adequate shelter for Haiti as it recovers, and is working with Haitian and United States partners to do so.*

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million people had been displaced by the end of February, and many of them had no suitable place to live.

Complicating matters is Haiti's rainy season, which lasts roughly from May through July. It is followed by hurricane season, which runs from about July through October.

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention is committed to helping provide adequate shelter for Haiti as it recovers, and is working with Haitian and United States partners to do so.

Transitional shelters – spaces that can be used more long term and possibly converted into permanent housing – are among the things Lott Carey is working on via its local partner, L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti (Strategic Union of Baptist Churches of Haiti).

Lott Carey also is part of a historic collaboration uniting five of America's largest historic African American Baptist organizations, the African American Baptist Mission Collaboration. The group has pledged



\$50 million over five years to help restore Haiti. Investing in 5,000 homes is part of that effort.

"The needs are so huge," said Claude Jeudy, national director of Habitat for Humanity in Haiti. He said more than 200,000 homes were completely destroyed.

Once needs are fully assessed it is possible Lott Carey and the African American Baptist Mission Collaboration could partner with Habitat, which provides skills training along with its home building projects.

"We need also to empower the community," said Jeudy. With training, Haitians "will be able to add more rooms" to the Habitat homes that are built, he said.

Among the communities where Habitat is building is the town of Leogane, close of the earthquake's epicenter. There destruction is massive, and even the most spiritual are struggling.



Lott Carey is helping to invest in 5,000 homes in Haiti.

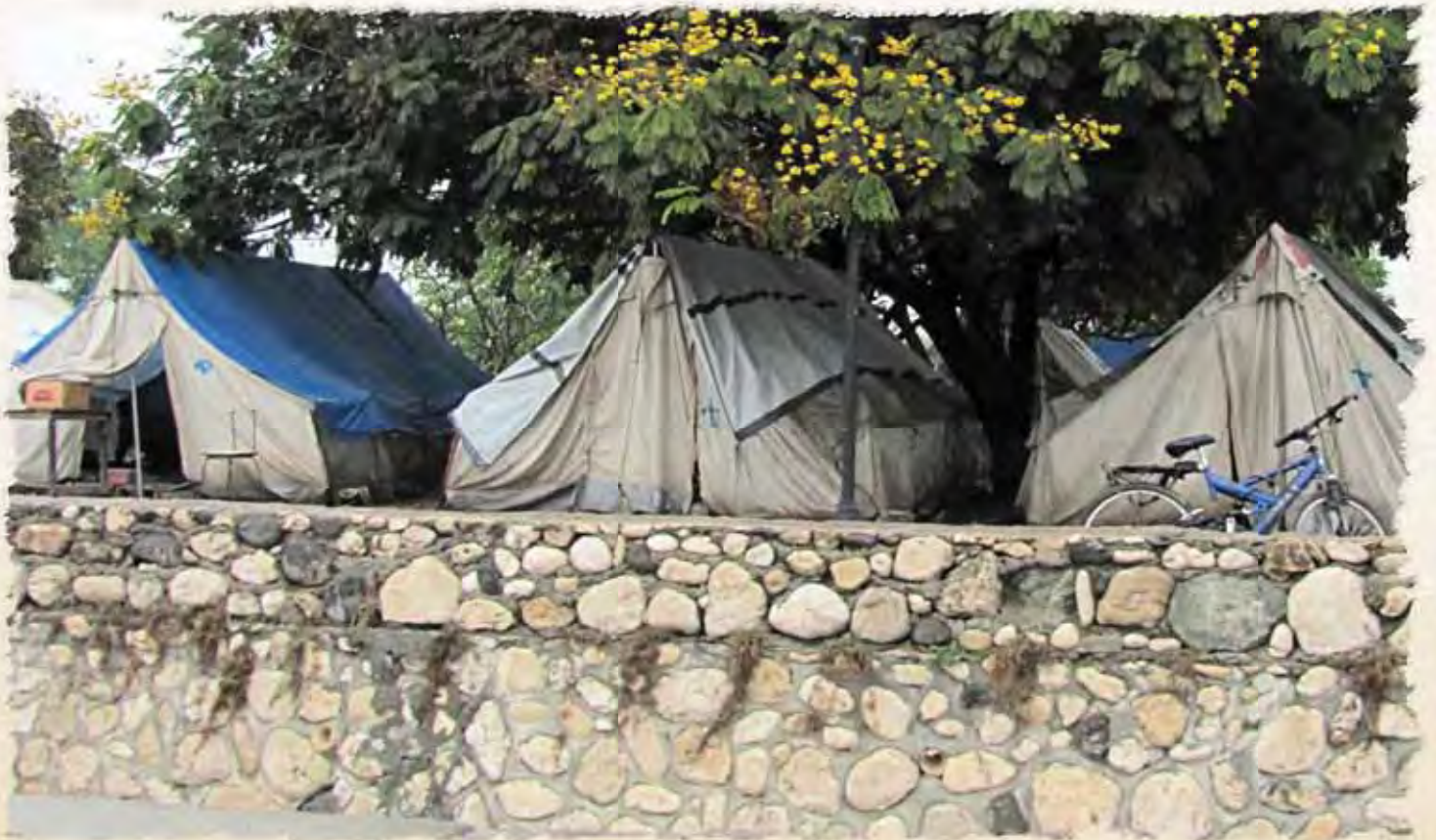
"People have lost all of their belongings," said Dr. Ronel Delva, a dentist and member of the Lott Carey Baptist Church in Leogane. With no homes, personal hygiene like dental care also has gone by the wayside, he said.

The Rev. Saul Hendrick, pastor of the Lott Carey Baptist Church in Leogane, said 90 percent of the town is displaced and that confusion has set in

with the loss.

"Sometimes it is Monday and people don't realize it is Monday," he said. Or, for example, a person might have something in their pocket and be looking for it at the same time. "They are disturbed," Hendrick said.

"We are praying, asking God for mercy," he said. "Things are very critical." ■



Military style tents are among those you see set up for people displaced in Haiti.



# Strategic Union took action by providing meals

It's hard to do anything when you are hungry.

It is especially hard to function when you're hungry *and* the life you once lived is no more.

That's the state of many in Haiti since the January earthquake that rocked the nation. Access to food was an immediate issue in the aftermath of the disaster, and now in the months following adequate food remains an issue as out-of-work and homeless residents struggle for nourishment.

Francois St. Vixan, who lives in Saint-Marc where masses of earthquake evacuees now live, has been doing her part of help the hungry. She was secured by L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes

d'Haiti – the Strategic Union of Baptist Churches of Haiti – to prepare meals for patients at St. Nicholas Hospital in Saint-Marc, their families and other internally displaced persons.

L'Union, a group of 22 churches which receives monthly support from the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, made feeding the needy among its top priorities after the earthquake.

St. Vixan, who is active in the church, said she hired seven women to cook the food along with her. In March the team of women was preparing 150 boxed meals daily, which they had been doing since the quake.

"We begin at 6 a.m. and by 11 a.m. the food is ready," said St. Vixan, who has eight children and 14 grandchildren. A normal meal consists of rice and beans, salad, and meat such as chicken or pork.

Piles of white Styrofoam containers with food are loaded onto a truck for the journey to the hospital, where a diverse group of people in hospital beds and outside in waiting areas gratefully receives the meals.

The medical director of the hospital, Dr. Y. Mayette, commended the efforts of Lott Carey and its local partner and said their contributions have allowed the hospital to meet the needs of hundreds of victims.



Adequate nutrition for Haitians will continue to be a major issue in the coming months.





Francois St. Vixan helps prepare meals for quake victims.

"We hope we will continue to do that," he said of serving those injured and displaced. Mayette said the hospital had received more than 850 victims in roughly two months following the earthquake, and that food and overall nutrition are among the priorities in the days ahead.

Grocery and cash grants to affected families also were included in the immediate help provided by the Strategic Union and Lott Carey following the devastation.

And, although prices of goods skyrocketed after the 7.0-magnitude earthquake, efforts are being made to purchase items locally "to encourage the national

economy," said Rev. Marc A. Pierre-Louis, president of L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti.

Clearly food needs continue, and in places such as the capitol city of Port-au-Prince people in tents and makeshift houses cook food on portable stoves both for themselves and to sell.

The Strategic Union has included nutrition among its focus areas for the immediate future, and Lott Carey has said it will come alongside with the help of its network and other partners.

"As we are faithful, God provides," said Rev. Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, executive secretary-treasurer of Lott Carey. ■



L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti has provided hundreds of meals like these to injured and displaced persons.



# Family business grants, other economic development efforts among major priorities following quake

Evania Charles of Port-au-Prince was standing outside when the 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck her nation, buckling the streets and reducing buildings to piles of rubble.

She is a local merchant and she was selling various goods such as rice, beans and oil when the ground started to shake. "Jesus save us," is what Charles, 30, called out.

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*Economic development has been identified as a major issue, along with housing, nutrition and other key areas that need addressing for the Haitian people.*

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After about 35 seconds it was over. But the crisis was actually just beginning for Charles, who has four children who are 13, 10, 7 and 5. For two days she said she slept in the streets, and then she traveled to Saint-Marc where there was more adequate shelter.

Charles said her life is better now that she is no longer living on the streets. Yet the future is uncertain since she "has nowhere to go." Even worse is the fact that she no longer has her small business, which means no source of income and no way to feed her children.

Her plight is one of the major dilemmas in Haiti presently. Many of the country's residents were small merchants, especially the women, and now their funding stream is gone.

Economic development has been identified as a major issue, along with housing, nutrition and other key areas that need addressing for the Haitian people.



Evania Charles no longer has the small business she once operated, making it hard to feed her children.

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention responded immediately following the earthquake by providing aid such as cash and grocery grants to families through its local partner, L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti (Strategic

Union of Baptist Churches of Haiti).

The Strategic Union also put a group of Haitian women to work preparing meals for distribution at a local hospital in Saint-Marc, and the food used was purchased from local growers.





"Pa gen lavi san travay" loosely translated from Haitian Creole means "There is no life without a job."

Still, "the economy we had before the earthquake no longer exists," said Pastor Wilfrid Jordonne, secretary of the Strategic Union's executive committee.

"The most important thing now is to have money in hand and to have food," said Rev. Marc A. Pierre-Louis, president of L'Union Strategique des Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti.

Haitians value work, and it is common to see signs that read "Pa gen lavi san travay," which loosely translated from Haitian Creole means "There is no life without a job."

That's why economic development ideas such as family business grants

have been included in the needs outlined by the Strategic Union to Lott Carey for the next phase of disaster response help.

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*"The most important thing now is to have money in hand and to have food."*

— Rev. Marc A. Pierre-Louis,  
president of L'Union Strategique des  
Eglises Baptistes d'Haiti

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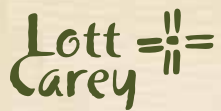
"There are many different ways to address the many needs," Rev. Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, executive secretary-treasurer of Lott Carey,

told members of the Strategic Union during a visit to the island in March. "We expect to come alongside and to help you do what you need to do."

Lott Carey's work and continued assistance via the Strategic Union will most certainly mean a transformed life for Haitians like Evania Charles. In March she was still staying in an old hotel in Saint-Marc that had been converted to a shelter for earthquake victims.

Yet she still had hope. "Only by faith in God things will work better," said Charles, embracing her children. ■





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