

*"I am the light of the world, and whoever follows Me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness."*

*John 8:12*

Yes, I want to help  Shine the Light

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge to support the teachers and the children of the First Lutheran Church of Les Cayes, Haiti through *Shine the Light*.

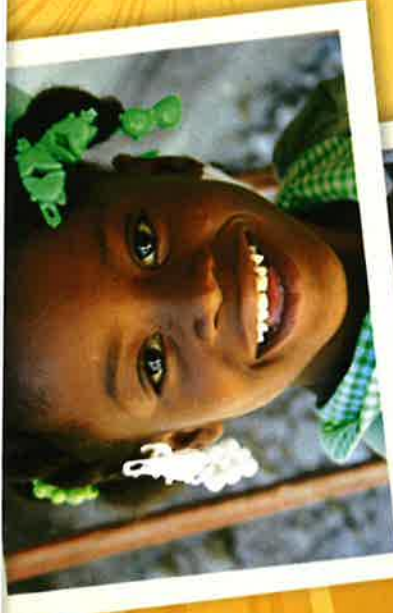
- \$10 per month for 12 months
- \$20 per month for 12 months
- \$30 per month for 12 months
- \_\_\_\_\_ per month for 12 months
- \_\_\_\_\_ one time donation
- I am a member of Holy Cross. My envelope number is \_\_\_\_\_
- I am not a member of Holy Cross. Please mail me year-end statements.

**PAYMENT OPTIONS:**

- With a check made out to Holy Cross Lutheran Church with 'Shine the Light' in the memo
- Donate online at [holycrossjenison.org](http://holycrossjenison.org);  
Resources/Giving Options

*Please return this completed form plus your first payment to the church office or mail to:*

**Shine the Light**  
**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
1481 Baldwin Street  
Jenison, MI 49428



**Shine the Light**



**Shine the Light**

*For more information regarding the  
Haiti Lutheran Ministry please contact:*

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
**Attn: Haiti Mission Support Team**  
1481 Baldwin Street  
Jenison, MI 49428

(616) 457-2420  
[www.holycrossjenison.org](http://www.holycrossjenison.org)



**Continuing the Mission...**



## Seeds of hope...

Every child is created in the image of God. Every child is born with hope...the hope of family, food, clothing, education, a future with possibilities, and the hope of Salvation.

Like seeds that we would plant, these seeds of hope must be cared for and nurtured in order for a child to grow strong, healthy, and happy. As plants need the light of the sun, children of God need the Light of Christ.

## ...in a Land of Darkness.

The children of Haiti live in a land filled with darkness—darkness of voodoo, poverty, illiteracy, disease, and hunger. *Shine the Light* offers hope.

### Voodoo

The satanic practices of Voodoo, a dominant, national culture, is practiced by many Haitians, even those who consider themselves Christian.

Voodoo is a pervasive evil that affects every level of society. Haitians perform ceremonies in which they invite gods (demons) to possess them for their personal benefit. Voodoo priests are paid to cast spells and sacrifice animals.

### Poverty

With the average income in Haiti being about \$5 per day, Haiti is known as the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Thus, very few parents can afford their children's school tuition. This has resulted in the fact that only 60.7% of people over the age of 14 are literate.



### Disease & Hunger

67 of every 1000 children die before the age of 5. Malnutrition is widespread but most escape starvation if their families can farm small plots of land. Tuberculosis and diarrhea kill hundreds of children who are already weakened by malnutrition, inadequate hygiene, and the unconventional and often dangerous practices of the voodoo witch doctor. A two-year-old child is called a "ti chape", which means "little escapee" from death. Recent natural disasters have compounded their plight.



## Making a Difference!

In 1998, Holy Cross, Jenison, began building a school for First Lutheran Church in Les Cayes, Haiti, and has been a benefactor for over 20 years. The school is used to educate students, typically ages 3–15. The school currently has over 200 students (as of the 2017–2018 school year), with *Shine the Light* sponsoring several of these students. The hope is to increase sponsorship, so as many children as possible can be helped.

In the past, First Lutheran Church could not afford to financially support their entire lunch program. Through Trinity/HOPE Feeding Program of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, a 501(c)(3) program, the goal of providing all students with at least one meal per school day has been realized. Now the children have food for their bodies and with the help of *Shine the Light*, they receive education for their minds and the light of Christ for their souls.



## How Can I Help Shine the Light?

Your financial gift will help in a variety of ways. Each student's individual needs are examined. Some children only need financial assistance to purchase books or shoes or uniforms. Others need help with tuition. Still others need assistance with all of these expenses. With the tuition fees, teachers' salaries can be paid and classroom materials purchased.

### Does my gift support only one student?

Since our goal is to help as many children with their various educational needs as possible, we do not assign a specific child to each donor. (We also do not want to create any envy or competition among the students). Any photos you may receive, therefore, represent the many children, and their teachers supported by *Shine the Light* donations. Pray for the children, the school, and the continuing ministry of First Lutheran Church.

### How does my gift get dispersed?

100% of the funds we collect will be sent to an account that has been set up specifically for educational use. The money provided by you for the *Shine the Light* program will not only support current students, but will enable new students to attend First Lutheran School and other schools in the community. If you would like more information regarding the Lutheran mission work in Haiti, please contact:

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**Attn: Haiti Mission Support Team**

**1481 Baldwin Street • Jenison, MI 49428**

**(616) 457-2420**