



August 2025

Church Phone: (218) 741-1899
E-mail: slchapel@centurylink.net

Sunday Worship Service – 10:15 a.m.

Communion on 1st Sunday of the Month

Monday Women's Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.
(Not first Monday of the month)

Wednesday Prayer Meeting – 4 p.m.

Sunday School – to resume in the fall

Vacation Bible School – August 5-7, 2025 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- Purple Heart Day – August 7, 2025
- Labor Day — September 1, 2025
- Patriot Day — September 11, 2025
- National Grandparents Day — September 7, 2022
- First day of Autumn — September 22, 2025



SAND LAKE CHAPEL BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman:	Dan Hautamaki
Vice-Chairman:	Norm Heinonen
Treasurer:	Jenna Hautamaki
Recording Secretary:	Angie Miller

Voting Members:

Galen Bergman
John Niemi
Julie Jankila

Board meetings are the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. If the first Monday is a holiday or extended holiday weekend, the meeting will be on the first Tuesday.

Church Secretary:	Julie Jankila
Financial Secretary:	Julie Jankila
Newsletter:	Tracy Muck
Ushers:	Norm Heinonen

Sand Lake Chapel Purpose Statement

"To introduce people to Jesus, and membership in His family; develop them to Christ-like maturity and unity in the faith, equip all the saints for their ministry in the church and their life mission in the world, in order to glorify God's name."

Sand Lake Chapel is a member of the 4 C's - Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

Can You Help?

Setting up a new household can be very burdensome, as well as expensive. In order to ensure that Pastor Zach and his family are well cared for, we are asking for donations of household things that you deem necessary. It could be things that we need here in Minnesota that an Arizonian would not be aware of or kitchen/ bathroom things we use every day. What will they need when the snow comes?

We will place baskets in the foyer by the office for drop off. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity in advance!

“But we ask of you, brothers, that you know those who labor among you, and lead you in the Lord and admonish you, and that you regard them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.”

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13



Garden News

By Debbie Niemi

It is almost August, but the garden is still arrayed in so much color with the splendor of all the phlox! So beautiful! The black-eyed susans are also ready to burst open. We have been enjoying the sedum, the coneflowers, yellow daisies, various lilies, and the Arizona blanket flowers and we still have asters, the hydrangea, the rose mallow and the grapes to look forward to seeing. We give You praise and glory and honor and thanks to you, Lord, for all the beauty of the earth!

I want to give a shout out to Byron and Mary Kesanen for weeding and deadheading after church last week. It helps so much! Thank you, thank you!

"And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these." Matthew 6:28-29 LSB

**"Consider how the wild
flowers grow"**

Luke 12:27





Helping Hands Ministries, Inc.

June 2025

Donna Raati, Chairman
Alberta Warwas, Treasurer
P.O.Box 1033, Cook, MN 55723
djr_zlcc@yahoo.com
218-969-7944 Cell

What a difference six months, my last letter, can make in the turmoil of the country of Haiti! We had our annual board meeting and I am happy to announce that we officially added Pastor St Luc Noel to our roster of pastors we support. He has always been an assist to our many problems we have encountered through the years. One



problem solved was the saving the cost and ensuring the delivery of an entire container of supplies in the long past years. He has never asked for aid but has helped us maneuver the language and culture barriers we have encountered.

Conservative Baptist Church in Vielle Terre, Jean Rabel, with Manes Tanis getting Bibles and New Testaments for the youth

Our second large decision, while we were waiting for the gang threat and crime to subside, was to at least start assisting churches with cases of Bibles. New converts usually do not have enough money in this impoverished country to purchase one. So we began and reached eight

churches to arm as many believers with swords and trusting each teacher to rightly divide the Word of God to help empower each believer to become more than an over comer.

This began in the month of March and continued. I fully intended to write our newsletter to notify everyone that we were doing something more than just waiting for calm in Haiti. This is when the flood gate of evil broke loose in Central Plateau. Wow, it is already June, and getting my letter out, long over due for your news worthy letter. So from April to June, I have been very busy, reminding myself, I really need to get this letter done! This is what went down:

The black dots of the Mowazo gang invading Plateau Central

March 31, 2025, I was on my way to work when I missed some phone calls from Haiti. By the afternoon, a photo was sent to me of the foot hills of the La Ferrier Church. This was unusual, but the black dots on the ridge showed up and I knew exactly what was on the way. The Mowazo 500 gang who had previously kidnapped the Americans and Canadian missionaries, were on their way from Goat Mountain to the Plateau Central, invading, killing, and pillaging the peaceful valley once again. Our newly selected recipient was on his way to flee with the clothes on his back with the rest of his family members living within his meager compound. I enclose his testimony with our other Bishop JeanRobert Nelson in this letter.



Since then, I had begun to hear of the troubles and the extent of the mayhem that the gangs have caused to the churches connected to Pastor St Luc and those still engaged with the Haitian churches started under Stenio Capre. The HHM board made decisions to aide now over 200 displaced persons within the Mowazo gang infiltrations. People were dispersed across the plateau to every direction. I needed to wait to find out the

you. So what happen? He took them and go to my house. My wife have a little business. They take mast and broke the business and they stealing everything we have and they open my house. They rob me. They open my sister house, my nephew's house, my son Justin house. They rob and they take everything! Justin have a motorcycle. They take it. But I have a Jeep Liberty and then they broke the glass. And then the front, the glass in front of me (windshield) they broke it. So now that means they ready to put fire to burning my house. And that guy said, "NO! This is a house of the preacher!" They said, "We don't care about the preacher. What are you say about preacher? Where IS the preacher?" And then this man (Leery), I never talk to him and he said, "No, he left since Sunday." He do not know what is going to happen. So they do not burn my house.

Brothers and sister, the tragedy now, I got 28 people and then I have 2 more coming ahh tomorrow, because they in trouble. (St Luc found favor and temporary housing in Cap Haitien) They (the owner) make a favor now. I don't supposed to have all that people on the house they borrow me, make me a favor to live. But I have all of this people, children, make very little kid and I have to take care of them.

Crossing the Artibonite River



(Referring to the additional construction of the Labastille church building) So praise the Lord and I have given many job for making window, door, eh stuff to wire the church, to make window. He's almost done with the job. But he (the iron craftsman) leave them on the ground somewhere and he call me. He said he cannot stay. He has to leave. This is where I am today. But now St Luc is all way north of Haiti in Cap Haitien with my family. Please ...praise"...video interrupted...video resumes...Anyways, I would like to say again, "God is still be with us. I want you to pray for us. They come to my house, the gang. They broke my uhh, my glass of my front glass of my car. They broke it down the Jeep Liberty. And they broke my wife little business. She selling cookies and milk and rice and sugar. Stuff like that and then soda stuffs uh, we buy some, a little freezer to help and they rob. They take everything. So they can take everything I have but they cannot take my life. Praise the Lord. That cannot eh stop me spread the gospel no matter what happen. HalleluJAH. But thank you so much. I just said that to you to let you know that we are eh still alive. We got 28 people to take care of. Nobody have nothing. Everybody run without a five cents in their pocket. St Luc gots responsibility to take care, but God is great God and He will help me. Thank you so much. I hope that you understand what going on in Haiti. So we cannot eh stop it. But God have a day to say, "ENOUGH!" That will be eh stop. Anyways, God bless you. Pray for us and then we still eh strong in the Lord and we love you and we hope that our God is still be with us. He said He would never leave us and never forsake us. That mean He's always be with us. Praise the Lord. God is great God. He is a loving God. We must go in on what we call tragedy. The time difficult but must be ended. But God is eh still be with us. Not because people rob me and take everything I have. I mean, I might like grumbling, blah, blah, blah to say, 'Oh, God is not be living God.' Yes my beloved, God is a loving God. He is a living God. He has all power. He will help us. Thank you so much. We love you. Continue to encourage in the Lord and pray for us. I mean, I will continue to spread the word of God. We love you and I said, 'AMEN'. Love you. Thank you. Amen"

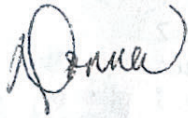


30 refugees in temporary housing, Cap Haitien

border of Dominican Republic. Lascahobas holds a Mirebalais pastor with 35 living in the bushes. Refugees have scattered to many cities, Peligre, Hinche, Haut Saut d'Eau, Maissade, Cap Haitien, and beyond. Our leaders have located 200 in need of emergency food. We have and will be sending monies next month as well. The cost is approximately \$3000 USD per month. By next month, we will re-evaluate the needs.

We will continue to pray and trust God to lead us in these even more turbulent times. PTL, Jesus is on his way! Got Jesus? In Him we can put our trust. Thank you for always remembering the poor and we continue to ease the lives of our Haitian friends and support the Gospel News that saves.

God bless you all.



Note from Bishop JeanRobert Nelson, May 7, 2025

Good evening pastor. How are you? I am happy to greet you in the name of Jesus. I am writing to you just to ask for your help in praying for us in the face of what is happening in our country especially in the central plateau as you have already seen where we have many Christians. The pastors, who are really struggling with gangs that kill, injure and put everyone out. We have many of them in the bushes. There are those in public places in the city. There are those who are sad. In the face of the situation in the country we can do nothing for them to end up hungry. They have no place to stay. This hurts us a lot. We ask all our brothers and sisters to help us pray for these people who are suffering. I hope that God blesses each person who helps us pray on the staff.

This is our brother Bishop Nelson

This is the story Pastor sent me today, April 4, 2025, 4:37 pm. Transcribed from a video.

"Alright. Good afternoon ahh my dear brother and sister of the United States, our friend. They are brother in the Lord. And so this is **Pastor St Luc** and I would like to give you a very short eh story. A heh God is really bless me and then I am working very hard to do what the Lord called me to do in Haiti. What is it? Preach the gospel. God help me by Pastor Donna Raati and then through you to help me to travel to the United States. But I do find somebody ask me, "Pastor Luc, do you want to eh stay in USA? " And I said, "NO". What the Bible said? He said "Go into the world and preach the gospel." That mean He sent me to preach the good news of the Lord of the gospel to our brothers and sisters. But thank you and then by the grace of God the people of the United States, brothers and sisters really help me. That is why I build a ministry for First Evangelical Bible Baptist Church in Haiti. And then now I already ahh build a nice church, Labastille, and we put ahh a trimming,



rafters like to be able to take 500 people. But what happen? Now the **gang** is take over Labastille. And they kill people. They burning houses. They burning eh school. Oh my goodness! So now, I cannot eh stay. I pass a tragedy, very difficult time with my family. My wife, she run without take any clothes, any underwear. (nervous laugh) She do not take anything. She run! She so eh scarey! They come with big weapon and shoot. They shoot anything and then now I got five people dead on our church because they stupid. They stay and they do not run, but they kill them.

Children and families of the compound traveling 4 days in the wilderness, on foot, without food, with some water, some carry a change of clothes.

So praise God I am a still alive. What happen? There is a guy called Leery. The gang come to his house because he do not run and they put gun on his ear and said you have to show me who has money on this area. And then he said, they told him if you not do that, you are going to see what's going happen to

particulars so that we could work with leaders who were still alive and had access to the church members. Clovis Capre has been leading the largest Central Plateau church under the Interdenominational Church of Haiti in (Gran) Boucan. This is a mountain ridge behind Pastor St Luc's home along the Artibonite River. When he



called Pastor St Luc for help, he had located 100 members scattered across to the edges of the plateau from Haut Saut d'Eau to Maissade. Pastor St Luc's entourage took four days on foot, with no meals, to escape the long guns, while his home, ministry vehicle, were vandalized and homes looted by gang members and then neighbors. A neighbor fourteen year old boy ran back to their home in the mayhem to retrieve the family pig tied to a tree and was shot in the head by gang members. That was the family's wealth, just like a savings account to us. Just a pig. Just a lost life of an innocent. St Luc's deaconess lived on the paved road of Route 3 in Labastille. She escaped, but her three brothers lay dead at her house. There was no one to bury them. The dogs left at their homes, feasted on dead bodies across the land. There was no one to bury them.

Clovis Capre traveled to Cap Haitien for food funds to feed hungry displaced people

By the end of April, the police in Mirebalais, the major crossroad city of the country was overtaken. Where were the mercenaries that were hired out of Ecuador and El Salvador by the rich to protect the city merchants? I still do not know if they fled or were murdered and shot down like the police at the prison in Mirebalais. I saw video sent to me of bodies lying at the police station, dead for days, prison files, all burning, vehicles smashed, while the Kenyon police (brought in by the United Nations to prevent this sort of thing) in armored Humvees overlooked the situation with no response.

A celebration took place in the Mirebalais crossroads by Mowazo. More militants came from over the mountain from the Port au Prince side. They welcomed the residents home. "You can return, it will be ok", they say. Some people returned after living under bushes, thinking it would be safe to return. As the gang came over to prepare their banquets for the nights of voodoo celebration, they stole family goats, not even fit for market. Remember these animals are Haitian family's bank accounts on the hoof. They took the animals and if the family was reluctant to release any animal, the family member would receive a bullet in the head.

Rice, oil, spaghetti and tomato sauce purchased for Gran Boucan



The Mowazo gang holds all vehicles captured available for the original owner to retrieve them at a ransom price. The large Catholic Church in Triano was burnt to the ground. The other largest church in the community, other than in the city of Mirebalais was Pastor St Luc's. He was in the process of adding the finishing touches to accommodate the hundreds of worshippers that met there. This made him look like a rich man and made him a target as you may deduce from his testimony. The gang leader unlocked the church building and now announced to the people coming back in the community. He stands on the new stage of the church building and proclaims, "Worship Me!". People may now again attend the church. All they need to do is pay \$2000 Haitian dollars to the gang every Saturday, to worship on Sunday. Pastor tells his people from Labastille and Mirebalais, worship in your homes.



Mowazo Gang supporters celebrating in Mirebalais May 12, 2025

People are still scattered across the country. So many are hiding. They have found their way to more quiet places in the country. Pastor Solomon houses and feeds displaced refugees at his home in Belladere at the

Happy Feet

This summer, put your best foot forward by brightening up a pair of flip-flops.

What you need:

- Flip-flops in your size
- Metallic permanent markers
- Foam stickers
- Craft gemstones
- Plastic flowers
- Ribbon
- Hot glue gun (and adult help)

What you do:

Use these ideas to decorate clean, dry flip-flops:

- Draw with markers on the soles.
- Decorate the sides and soles with stickers.
- Glue gemstones along the strap.
- Glue plastic flowers on the strap between your toes.
- Wrap ribbon around the strap and glue in place.

PUZZLE

Fruit or false



Spotting true fruits can be tricky. Thankfully, it's much easier to spot the fruit of the Spirit.



Directions: Determine whether each item is a fruit or vegetable and circle the correct letter. Then insert the letters in order below to complete the verses.

	Fruit	Vegetable		Fruit	Vegetable
Apple	V	P	Pepper	O	U
Carrot	E	O	Spinach	R	S
Tomato	Y	R	Watermelon	H	P
Grape	C	F	Broccoli	G	N
Eggplant	T	D	Pumpkin	T	Y
Celery	I	N	Pear	F	C
Banana	K	M	Asparagus	L	R
Cucumber	N	W			

But the fruit of the Spirit is lo_e, j_ _ , pea_e,
pa_ie_ce, _ind_ess, go_dne_s,
fait_ful_ess, gen_leness, sel_-cont_ol.

GALATIANS 5:22-23, ESV

Answer: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

Puzzle

Search for and circle all the bold words from Psalm 18:2, which reminds us where we find our strength.

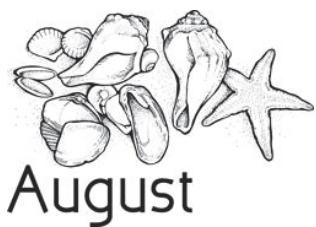
The LORD is **MY ROCK**, my **FORTRESS** and my **DELIVERER**; my **GOD** is my rock, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is my **SHIELD** and the **HORN** of my **SALVATION**; my **STRONGHOLD**.

GOD ROCKS!

S T R O N G H O L D S
O L O B K I E Y E J S A
R E F U G E I Y N T V L
R O G H A R L Q R A Y V
S X C T T I M T K K M A
H O R N C E Y R A E D T
I G F V L O L K E N S I
E N F O R T R E S S S G O
L T U R G Q A C K J Q N
D C D E L I V E R E R E
K Y U X O C N O O Y Q S
X H X A R K L R C N H Y
G O D D K A D K U D X

SAND LAKE CHAPEL
9038 Biss Road
Britt, MN 55710

218-741-1899



August